

OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF LABOR
OF ALBANIA

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TIRANA, 1968

Workers of all countries, unite!

INFORMATION BULLETIN

OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF LABOR
OF ALBANIA

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YEAR XX

TIRANA, 1968

On November 30, 1967 an earthquake was felt throughout the territory of the People's Republic of Albania. The tremor was particularly violent in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts causing material damage and loss of lives.

The central and regional Party and Government organs took immediate steps to come to the aid of the population of these districts and to wipe out the traces of this calamity within a month's period of time. Thousands of volunteer workers and specialists from all corners of the country came to the aid of the population of the damaged districts and, through their heroic efforts, demonstrated the high socialist solidarity and steel-like unity of the Albanian people.

We are publishing a number of documents concerning this event:

TELEGRAM
OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF
LABOR OF ALBANIA AND THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
TO THE POPULATION OF THE DISTRICTS OF
DIBRA AND LIBRAZHDI DAMAGED BY THE
EARTHQUAKE

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters!

The Central Committee of the Party and the Council of Ministers learned with deep regret of the catastrophe and heavy losses caused by the earthquake on November 30 in the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi and express their sincere condolences to the families of the victims.

At these moments, just as always, the Party and Government are by your side and assure you of their unreserved support and aid. The Party and Government have taken and are taking all measures to come to the immediate aid of the population of regions affected by the earthquake in order to remove within the shortest period of time all the consequences of the devastations so that not even a single family afflicted by the earthquake should suffer because of the approaching winter season.

The natural calamity the population of the Dibra and Librazhdi regions have had to bear has been deeply felt by all the Albanian people who, all over the country and in a high sense of socialist solidarity, have expressed their readiness to come to the aid of the afflicted areas. Hundreds of workers and specialists from several regions of the country have already volunteered and are continually volunteering and setting out to render their contribution to the rebuilding and repair of damaged buildings.

The Central Committee and the Council of Ministers express their unshaken confidence that the brave people of the Dibra and Librazhdi districts under the guidance of the Party will cope with revolutionary courage with the temporary difficulties caused by the earthquake and, together with all the people, will proceed towards building socialism in the country.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY
OF LABOR OF ALBANIA AND THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Tirana, 1.XII.1967

DECISION
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA ON MEASURES TO BE TAKEN
TO HELP THE POPULATION OF THE DIBRA AND
LIBRAZHDI DISTRICTS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGES
CAUSED BY THE EARTHQUAKE

The Council of Ministers, taking cognizance of the damages caused by the 1967 November 30 earthquake in the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi, in line with the teachings of the Party that power stems from and serves the people and relying, at the same time, on the strength of our socialist economy and the revolutionary impulse of our working masses and in order to help the population of the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi to repair the damages caused by the earthquake.

DECIDED:

- 1) All the houses, schools and other buildings demolished or damaged by the 1967 November 30 heavy earthquake in districts of Dibra and Librazhdi to be completely re-built and repaired within the month of December this year.
- 2) All the necessary material expenses for the complete rebuilding and repair of the houses, schools and other buildings demolished or damaged by the earthquake in the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi to be met with by the State.
- 3) The Ministry of Building as well as all its dependent enterprises are charged with sending to the damaged villages of the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi as many brigades of builders with competent specialists and work tools as possible. The Ministries and other economic organs are charged with taking immediate measures to supply the districts of Dibra

and Librazhdi with all the materials needed to re-build and repair the houses, schools and other buildings demolished or damaged by the earthquake.

4) Material aid in cash, food and clothing is to be given at once and free of charge to the families heavily damaged by the earthquake and, especially, to the families of victims.

5) The Council of Ministers hails the revolutionary initiative taken by the organs of the Party, of the State, by several State enterprises, by agricultural cooperatives of other districts as well as by the armed forces to have voluntarily sent more than 1800 building specialists, technicians and engineers to the villages of the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi as a token of socialist solidarity to help their brothers remove the consequences and repair the damages caused by the earthquake.

All expenses for the transportation of materials and volunteers from various districts to the damaged areas are to be paid for by the State.

6) A State Commission to Remove the Consequences Caused by the Earthquake headed by Deputy-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Adil Çarçani is set up at the Council of Ministers in order to supervise the implementation of the measures set forth in this decision. This Commission will exercise its functions until the complete implementation of these tasks.

7) This decision goes into effect at once.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Tirana, 1.XII.1967

A N N O U N C E M E N T

BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA ON THE REMOVAL OF THE
AFTERMATH AND REPAIR OF THE DAMAGES CAUSED
BY THE 1967 NOVEMBER 30 EARTHQUAKE

In winding up the magnificent work done to remove the aftermath and to repair the damages caused by the earthquake, the Council of Ministers informs all the population that the earthquake of November 30 last year had its epicenter in the People's Republic of Albania and caused great damage to the districts of Dibra and Librazhdi. The earthquake hit 177 villages in 13 localities of these two districts causing loss of lives and materials. The casualties included 12 persons dead and 174 others wounded. 6.336 buildings were damaged of which 5.994 were dwelling houses and 158 buildings of a social and cultural character, 131 of them school buildings. 534 of the buildings were razed to the ground and had to be rebuilt from the foundations, while 1.623 suffered heavy damages and 4.179 others medium and light ones, not reckoning other damages of secondary significance. Those damaged most were especially the localities of Klenja, Ostreni, Maqellara and Lunik and the villages of Sebishta, Borova, Zabzuni, Stebleva, Klenja, Upper Ostreni, Lower Ostreni, Lladomerica, Çernena, Burimi, Majtara, Dorëz, Gizavesh, Qarishta, Vojnik and others where nearly 70 per cent of the houses were either razed to the ground or damaged heavily.

Immediately after the earthquake and making a correct and earnest assessment of the situation, the Council of Ministers took all the necessary and urgent measures to come to the aid of the afflicted population. As early as on the first day all the families left without shelter were housed in buildings not affected by the earthquake and in 506 tents brought to the spot, schools, hospitals and the network of trade began

to function regularly and immediate material assistance in food and clothing was provided by the state free of charge for the families damaged most. Work was organized in both districts under the direction of the organs of the Party and of the State. Staffs to remove the aftermath were set up in all villages and localities and special commissions were created to assess damages, to plan the work to be done, to manage and distribute the materials at posthaste speed. The population of the areas damaged by the earthquake and volunteers who had poured in from throughout the country were organized in work brigades and squads assigning at the same time, the work fronts.

By special decree the Council of Ministers decided that all the totally ruined and damaged houses should be put up or repaired with the expenses of the State within one month's time limit (December 1967). A State Commission to remove the aftermath and repair the damages caused by the earthquake was set up for this purpose at the Council of Ministers.

In line with the above decision, whole columns of motor vehicles loaded with materials of construction set out for the two districts. In addition to the materials of construction raked up on the spot there were speedily dispatched to the Dibra and Librazhdhi districts the following: 3.200.000 bricks, 1.190.000 tiles, 36.000 square meters of tarred paper, 23.400 square meters of «Eternit» slabs, 24.000 square meters of pupulite slabs, 24.000 square meters of wood shavings slabs, 16.000 square meters of corn cob slabs, 3.500 square meters of fiber slabs, 9.400 square meters of window pane glass, 21.000 square meters of reeds for thatching, 95 tons of nails, 1.530 tons of lime, 925 tons of cement, 1.830 cubic meters of round timber, 2.420 cubic meters of sawn timber, 810 cubic meters of scantlings, 800 iron roof frames, 3.640 pre-fabricated windows and doors, 6.070 reinforced concrete pillars, over 65 pre-fabricated houses, 10.000 square meters of pasteboard, 1.000 mattresses, 3.000 quilted jockeys and 6.000 square meters of blankets.

A total of 40.000 tons of building materials were brought to the Dibra and Librazhdhi districts from other districts. Over 1.300 trucks from parks and other enterprises, 42 tractor-drawn trailers and 1.850 draft animals were employed for 20 days at a stretch to transport these materials to the building sites; to some of these damaged areas these materials had to be carried by hand in bad weather and over rough roads.

Taking part in the work of speeding up the removal of the consequences of the earthquake were not only the people of the Dibra and Librazhdhi districts but also those who had come from all corners of the country, from the very remotest villages and cities as a token of high socialist solidarity. Thus, our Party and Government, the Albanian people as a whole, as always, in this case of natural calamity too, came at once to the aid of the people of the Dibra and Librazhdhi districts prompted by an unprecedented feeling of readiness and solidarity, turning the problem of surmounting the consequences of the earthquake into a mass action.

Over 19.400 persons took direct part at work and in construction in this major mass action 5.293 of whom specialists in building construction, 10.600 cooperative members, over 1.360 truck drivers and over 2.900 workers of industrial, handicraft and trade enterprises doing over 388.500 work days all told. 3.145 specialists alone came from other districts to Dibra and Librazhdhi of whom 372 from Tirana, 127 from Durrës, 310 from Elbasan, 313 from Korça, 165 from Berat, 304 from Vlora, 110 from Saranda, 76 from Gjirokastra, 122 from Kukës, 152 from Mati, 55 from Tepelena, 88 from Lushnja, 78 from Fieri, 110 from Pogradec, 44 from Gramsh, 65 from Kolonja, 41 from Permeti, 49 from Tropoja, 101 from Mirdita, 25 from Puka, 43 from Kruja, and over 400 additional volunteers came to the damaged regions from the detachments of our People's Army and of the Ministry of Interior. Hundreds of other workers have also gone there and worked for shorter periods of time.

Educated by our glorious Party and endowed with a high sense of revolutionary persistence at work and marvellous socialist solidarity, they all worked with rare ability, exemplary determination and high morale, disregarding the bleak winter and all difficulties, sacrificing even their lives as volunteer Tosun Shahinasi from Maliq in Korça did falling heroically at the village of Lunik in the Librazhdhi district and, with his pure blood, cementing further the foundations of this brilliant solidarity of our people which our Party of Labor and Comrade Enver Hoxha have created.

Work went on with self-abnegation for twenty-five days in succession, night and day, in rain, snow and storm, in slush and frost under a temperature reaching down to 19 °C below zero, mixing mortar with warm water and salt, laying foundations and putting up walls; carrying materials of construction.

by hand or on draft animals far up to three or four hours from the motor highways; it was with unprecedented zeal that our marvellous drivers worked driving their trucks by night and by day to Çermënika, Lunik, Bulqiza, Ostreni and Klenja. Thus, for a whole month, Dibra and Librazhdi were turned into a big workyard where thousands of builders, plying their tasks in a revolutionary way, taking their clue from the heroic exploits during our National-liberation War and inspired by the heroic deeds of Adem Reka, Muhamet Shehu and Myrteza Kepi, by 15-year old Communist Shkurte Pal Vata, by the steel-like willpower of Fuat Çela, by the patriotic deed of Mehmet Elezi and of many others wound up the big mass action of removing the consequences of the earthquake before the time limit set by the Council of Ministers.

On the basis of official and final information received by the State Commission for the removal of the consequences of the earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts, the Council of Ministers announces to its great satisfaction that all the disastrous consequences of the earthquake have been fully removed at record time. 534 new buildings were set up, 1,623 heavily damaged buildings and over 4,179 medium and lightly damaged ones were completely repaired. Over 6,336 damaged buildings, 5,994 of which dwelling houses, 131 schools and institutes of learning, 25 hospitals and ambulances and 176 economic centers were built and repaired in less than 25 days, enabling thus the life in all the damaged villages and localities to take its normal course within a very short time. This is a further major and important victory which is due to the high patriotism of our people and to the enlightened leadership of our Party headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha.

While the aftermath of the earthquake in the People's Republic of Albania has been removed in less than a month, on the other side of the boundary, in Titoite Yugoslavia, quite the contrary is happening to our brothers in Upper Dibra which was also heavily shaken by the earthquake on November 30. The Yugoslav Titoite clique have resorted to all sorts of absurd and ridiculous pretexts by speculating on the bad atmospheric conditions and leaving the population of Upper Dibra homeless and helpless and by taking advantage of this natural calamity in order to denationalize the Albanian population in Upper Dibra. Nevertheless, the Titoites will never succeed in attaining their objective. Our fraternal people of Upper Dibra will never abandon their homes which they and

their fathers and forefathers have moistened with their sweat and blood for centuries in succession and they will continue to fight with pluck and courage against the chauvinist policy of assimilation which the Titoite regime pursues.

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The great self-denying work of our people in removing the consequences of the earthquake was a further proof of the brilliancy of the correct line of our Party guided with wisdom and farsightedness by its Central Committee headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha.

In this major mass action we saw, as never before, the manifestation of the great revolutionary combative unity of our Party with the people, the strength and vitality of our social and State order of things, the economic strength of our socialist Homeland, the high political awareness and fiery patriotism of our people. It is precisely to this that the brilliant success of our people is due in removing with such speed the consequences of the earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts.

The Council of Ministers takes this occasion to extend its warm salutations to the patriotic, brave and hard-working people of the Dibra and Librazhdi districts, to the thousands of specialists, workers and cooperative members of other districts for their readiness, mobilization and spirit of self-denial, for the high revolutionary spirit they manifested in this major mass action, thus, proving once again that, under the brilliant leadership of our glorious Party, the Albanian people defy and will always defy all obstacles and hardships be they caused by nature or our imperialist and modern revisionist enemies.

The Council of Ministers salutes, at the same time, all the organs of the administration and the organizations of the masses of the villages, localities and districts of Dibra and Librazhdi, all the organs of the administration, those of economy and the organizations of the masses of other districts, the detachments of our People's Army and of the Ministry of Interior as well as all the agricultural cooperatives for their readiness and mobilization, for their good organization and management of this major mass action.

The great self-denying work to remove the consequences of the earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts was a

further major proof of the correctness of the line of our Party as the line of the masses, of the combative spirit, organizational power and of the ability of our brave and heroic people who, under the far-sighted guidance of the Party of Labor of Albania, will always forge ahead along its glorious path and will capture every height of building socialist and communist society in our country.

The Council of Ministers calls on all the organs of the administration and economy at the center and at the grass-roots to turn the experience of the great mass action to remove the consequences of the earthquake into a major school in which to further perfect the method and style at work and in the battle against bureaucratic practices and manifestations, in order to raise the level of mobilization as well as the revolutionary zeal of all our people so as to accomplish with success other major mass actions as those of bringing electricity to all the rural areas of the country, of setting up dwelling houses by volunteer work as well as of accomplishing the historic tasks of the 5th Party Congress and the 4th five-year period before schedule.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

COMRADE ENVER HOXHA'S SPEECH AT A JOINT
MEETING OF THE CADRES OF THE PARTY,
GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS
OF THE DIBRA AND LIBRAZHDİ DISTRICTS

From December 14 through 18, 1967, the First Secretary of the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha, paid a visit to the Dibra district damaged by the 1967 November 30 earthquake. In this visit he was accompanied by Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Mehmet Shehu, by Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania, Deputy-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and President of the State Commission to wipe out the traces of the earthquake, Comrade Adil Corcani, and by Candidate of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania, Minister of Interior Comrade Kadri Hazbiu.

Comrade Enver Hoxha visited the damaged zones, and families and had contact with the broad masses of peasants, Party and Government cadres and volunteer workers and specialists busily engaged in removing the traces of the earthquake in as short a period of time as possible.

On December 16, 1967 the Party Committees and the Executive Committees of the People's Councils of the Dibra and Librazhdı districts organized a joint special meeting at Peshkopia to size up the work done so far and to carry out the decision of the Government on removing the consequences and repairing the damages caused by the earthquake as soon as possible.

At this meeting, the First Secretary of the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha, delivered the following speech:

Dear Comrades, Brothers and Sisters of the Dibra and Librazhd Districts and of all Albania!

After the brief visit to the areas damaged by the earthquake in both of your regions, allow me, in the name of the Central Committee, of the Council of Ministers, of the comrades present here at Peshkopi today and of my own to convey to you the most revolutionary greetings of our Party and of our people as a whole. Allow me, at the same time, to tell you that, following the disaster which befell these two districts, everybody, old and young, in our country was stirred up because the line of our Party, its heroic struggle has bound our people close to one another, has made our people think, strive and feel as one body, to think, feel and fight as glorious revolutionaries.

It was, therefore, natural that the pain which was felt throughout the country when this calamity befell your districts was great but, parallel with this pain and fraternal socialist solidarity, there sprang up at the same time the strong feeling of showing a bold front towards all obstacles and sacrifices and all the people, Party and Government rose up and took historic revolutionary decisions never met with before, of such efficiency as to make it possible to do away with the consequences of so great a calamity, which will be most certainly surmounted within a short period of time.

It grieved us all, first and foremost because 12 people of your districts lost their lives and 171 were wounded. For us, for all our people and our Party, this was the greatest loss; since man in socialism is the most precious thing, but we should confront the sorrow and grief which this natural calamity brought upon us with the valor, courage and endurance of the Albanians. And sure enough, this is what took place. Our greatest concern, first of all, was that winter was approaching; therefore it became imperative to take all and immediate measures so that the people of victimized families might be sheltered in warm houses as soon as possible; we were not troubled at all about the problem of supplying material to repair damages, we did not even bother with this at

all, for this was an indisputable matter before the heroism of the people of Dibra, Librazhd and Albania as a whole. And behold now, comrades, this lofty goal of our Party, this fiery wish of the people to ensure normal conditions of shelter to our sisters and brothers who have suffered from the earthquake is well under way and all without exception will soon be housed in new and better buildings.

We heard here today the reports of the Comrade Chairmen of the Executive Committees of the People's Councils of the Dibra and Librazhd districts in which it was pointed out that the ravages wrought in these two districts were not slight but very heavy indeed. But the high patriotic ideological and political spirit of our laboring masses, the great organizational power of our Party and State, the organization of forces on the spot by the Party Committees and Executive Committees concerned of both your districts succeeded in making the work of repairing or of building from the foundations damaged or demolished houses proceed at an uninterrupted speed and, as reported here, to be completed before the time limit set by the Council of Ministers.

All the Albanian people, Comrades, will be jubilant and consider your final announcement of the completion of the work as a good piece of news. Therefore, all of you together with the masses of the cooperative members of the Dibra and Librazhd districts and the volunteers who have come from corners of Albania, who have set to work with such zeal to surmount the grave consequences of the earthquake, think of our people as a whole who are impatiently awaiting the news of the accomplishment before schedule of this major task fulfilling in this way their ardent expectations. Work hard, Comrades, work day and night as a single body to remove all the grave consequences of this temporary misfortune, so that life may soon be again normally and joyfully coupled with fruitful achievements in carrying out our plans.

We who came here at these unusual moments, were deeply moved indeed by the high patriotic sentiments of the population of these districts. These ardent feelings can hardly be described by the few words which I may say here today. It is impossible to describe the feelings of unbounded gratitude towards the Party and People's Government which bounced from the hearts of the men and women cooperative members we met everywhere we came to.

What is of more importance is the fact that whoever we

met did not feel a bit detached from the Party. For every one the Party and he or she themselves had become as one. This is that great steel-like unity which the Party has implanted among the people, that is why the unity of the people around our glorious Party is unbreakable. This unity is manifested every day in all its grandeur but it was manifested in a more pronounced way especially during the critical moments the population of Dibra and Librazhdi had to pass through. It was precisely during these unusual moments that this unity reached its acme, that the devotion and deep gratitude of our people towards their dearly cherished Party, their People's Power, their dictatorship of the proletariat was expressed once again as never before.

We were not affected by the misfortune that befell us in the sense of unnerving us. We may have also shed tears on this occasion, for we could not help shedding them; such were the expressions of the lofty sentiments of these brave and courageous people who, at these critical moments, displayed their strength and noble character showing to the Party what colossal possibilities lie hidden in their ranks, what magnificent works they are able to set up under the correct guidance of the Party and with their steel-like efforts and will-power, with their clear minds and marvellous hands.

The Party should draw major political, ideological and organizational lessons from these moments, it should draw lessons from the organization of work and the struggle to build and re-build the damaged buildings so as to further improve its work, to always proceed ahead better and better.

Let us no longer call this that befell us a misfortune, Comrades but a great test for the Party and Government and for all our people. The period of trial we passed through during these moments verified the strength of the correct political line of our Party, the strength of Marxism-Leninism, of our glorious ideology which our Party is imparting to us and the people every day, at work and in struggle during major revolutionary battles. It confirms, at the same time, the militant, combative and self-denying spirit as well as the great organizational power of our Party and our People's Rule. It was a period of trial during which our people would demonstrate and carry out in practice, at this critical situation, the ability they had acquired in life, at work and in schools, an ability which is confirmed every day and every hour at work and in struggle; but this was an unusual moment which de-

manded intelligence, great speed in making decisions and, at the same time, great skill and self-denial. For all these, brothers and sisters, this calamity was a great test, a link in the chain of the great revolutionary drive which has gripped all of Albania, it was the test of the brilliancy of the correct line of our Party which has elated the hearts of all our people, of every one of us, young or old.

Of course we did not desire this earthquake to have taken place, but it was beyond our power to ward it off. It caused a lot of damage to us but, at the same time, it brought the benefits which I referred to and which cannot be evaluated by millions or billions. The noble qualities which our Party has imbued our people with, qualities which appear and develop in all their splendor every hour, every day, every month and every year, are invaluable. They mobilize all the energies of the people to raise production and create abundance, to raise the moral, political and ideological level of our people who are constantly transforming and will transform our country for the better and who are strengthening and developing with greater and greater zeal the achievements of our socialist revolution in all fields.

Therefore, brothers and sister of Dibra and Librazhdi, may this calamity have had its day and be forgotten from the psychologic point of view. Whereas, from the material point of view, as you yourselves pledged your word here today, exert all your efforts to build or repair the damaged houses, some on the 20th, others on the 25th, 27th or 28th December, but in all cases before the time limit set in the decision of the Government. And I am deeply convinced that, with the measures we have taken, they will most certainly be completed before the end of this month, and those who have been damaged as well as our people as a whole will finally feel a deep satisfaction, it will immensely increase their efforts which shall be utilized in the days to come always for their own good.

In the first place we should utilize these moments for political purposes. Every day in our country there are many tangible examples of unprecedented heroism and self-denial which can illustrate in a brilliant way the line of our Party. And, by combining all these examples with the correct political line of our Party, by viewing them always from a political angle, we will be certain that these acts of heroism, capability and energy will not have been wasted nor weakened.

but, on the contrary, they will have been multiplied a hundred-fold.

Secondly, we should utilize these moments also for ideological purposes. Our Party has always taught us that our Marxist-Leninist ideology is not incomprehensible for the masses. On the contrary, it is understandable, within the grasp of every person be he or she schooled or unschooled. But the Party should continually strive to make our Marxist-Leninist ideology understandable by the masses, illustrating it with the deeds of the Albanian people themselves led by the Party, and for this it has all availabilities: today we can even say that these availabilities are very great.

It was precisely the examples of struggle and heroism, it was precisely the marvellous achievements and initiatives, the great courage and high spirit of self-denial of the masses that inspired and enabled our great teachers Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin to synthesize our socialist theory which emerges from the revolutionary creative movement of the proletariat of the popular masses. If the people of our Party know (and they should know and learn) how to refer every deed, collective or individual, of our working class, of our laboring peasantry and our popular intelligentsia, every sacrifice our heroes of work and struggle make for socialist construction, to theory, then there will be no one who would not understand and grasp Marxism-Leninism, then all will say that this theory that guides us is not of so very difficult acquisition. As a matter of fact, every activity of ours is illuminated by our theory; our Party holds its theory, Marxism-Leninism, for its banner. Therefore, all the citizens of our People's Republic, from the youngest to the oldest, who express themselves so vehemently in favor of the Party and do their uttermost to carry out its line in practice, who put up buildings, open up virgin lands, build canals and hydro-electric power-plants, and so on and so forth, even if they do not know how to make theory, even if they do not know how to speak (as was the case with Comrade Kamber Shevroja who, regardless of not knowing how to use high-flown words, is well acquainted with the laws of building bridges and roads and applies in this way the teachings of the Party as they should be applied) when they work, when they build all these major works, even without knowing this glorious theory of our Party, carry it out into practice as it should be done.

We are now faced with the major task of imparting the

ideology of our Party to the broad masses of people with more force. It is not enough to have some hundreds of specialized theoreticians. They are of no use if they do not teach this theory also in practice to the masses, to all our people, for socialism is a great political and ideological force which puts the laboring masses in motion. Theory has no meaning without the revolutionary practice of the masses, that is why our Party, a real revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party which is consistently and always on the rise, puts in motion our hundreds of thousands of our masses, all our people down to the very youngest who have acquired the primary concepts of life, without mentioning here the good work you have done, Comrade communists.

I do not say this to puff ourselves up, for we have also our shortcomings which we have never kept hidden from the people. Who looks at things straight into the eye admits that one who works may also err. But, regardless of these, the achievements attained in our country are immense, the people see every day in practice what great force the Party is and when we say the Party we mean all the communists of whom it is made up. The good work of the Party, the good work of the communists is verified every day in practice. It is the communists who have inspired, who have uplifted the people politically and ideologically and have turned them into an indomitable dragon putting into practice what the Party designates with a high sense of duty, great self-confidence and rare genius. All this, therefore, is the work of the Party, of the communists.

Let us have a look and see how this work of the Party developed. We have had many and major difficulties at first but we surmounted them successfully one after the other, and we have now been tempered, we have acquired a major experience and we are forging always ahead. Consequently, the achievements attained are also great, bearing no comparison with the past. In the days to come they will be even greater.

Thirdly, we should take full advantage also of the great experience of organizing work which we acquired in this major test. Does this mean that we did not know how to organize work up to now? Of course we did. We have organized work at major projects but we should bear in mind that perfect organization is hard to achieve. At work and in battle we should learn how to organize the work ever so better and in a creative way in compliance with the given conditions and

circumstances. This took place also recently in your districts. The Party organizations and State organs in your districts set up at once after the earthquake and at each village damaged by the earthquake a staff of workers to direct the work of normalizing the life of the people taking all the necessary steps to remove the aftermath and acquired in this way a rich organizational experience under extremely difficult circumstances of nature.

From this experience should all of us, the State, the Council of Ministers, the Ministries draw lessons. This experience acquired during one month is such as to be hardly acquired during three years under normal conditions, and it will help us in the days to come to an extent which is hard to imagine at present.

How will it be of help to us? In accomplishing our economic plans. We have now the economic five-year plan set by the 5th Party Congress which aroused great enthusiasm among the Party and people for its implementation. The laboring masses assumed obligations which they are fulfilling and turning to material goods. Now we are witnessing how these obligations are being fulfilled and new ones, still more courageous, are being taken which, not very long ago but even five years before, would have sounded fantastic, whereas now they have become something usual and are playing a major role in accomplishing in many respects the tasks of the last year of the five-year plan in industry, agriculture etc, during the 1968-1969 period.

Where does this great force lie which makes such achievements possible? It is precisely the work of the Party in further revolutionizing the thoughts of people, the high political spirit of its line to create material goods, the implementation of its directives to give priority to politics that aroused all Albania. This accounts also for the fact that, when Shkurte Pal Vata fell while building the railroad, old and young sprang to their feet, people could not be restrained in factories, in cooperatives nor in schools.

The Central Committee and Government have been receiving and are continually receiving hundreds and thousands of telegrams. The workers' collectives do not express in these letters and telegrams their mere desire to go to this mass action: many of them, having started at night, have sent them to the Central Committee while on their way, informing it that, on their initiative and without waiting for an answer,

they had set out and were marching towards the railroad building site to volunteer their services presenting the State and the Party with a 'fait accompli'. This great mass of people aroused by the example of a young 15-year old girl demonstrates with what highly political and revolutionary zeal the people of new Albania grasp the problems of socialist construction.

Blind man Fuat Çela with his high sense of duty at work, electrified and mobilized all our workers, our youth in particular. Every one began to think what he or she should do when Fuat Çela lacking eyesight does all that work in an unflinching way. All Albania was aroused under the inspiration of his life and work. The blind man taught us in this way to wake up and say to ourselves: «When Fuat lacking eyesight acts thus what are we to do who have both eyes on?» What is happening now with us is, as Lenin and Stalin teach, that every communist asks himself every evening: «How have I accomplished my task today?»

To replace Shkurte Pal Vata who fell at her post of duty there went her father to the railroad building site. Mehmet Elezi came here to Dibra to replace his brother who fell at the border. These are not ordinary gestures. These exemplary revolutionary stands maintained by the rank and file of our country have a high political significance, they revolutionize the minds of our people and make them lion-like multiplying their energies hundred-fold, giving them heart to jump into fire, if need arises, for our Party, our Fatherland, since they are well aware that they do this for their own good, for the good of their beloved Fatherland, for their own future and the future of their children and of the generations to come. These revolutionary acts which take place in our country reflect the correct political line of our Party, leaving with our Marxist-Leninist ideology.

Thus, this period of trial raised us a lot politically. It will help us also in fulfilling our plans successfully. Now in the Dibra district and in that of Librazhd where thousands of houses are being built at record time, not only you but all the people will think more deeply and ask themselves: «When thousands of houses are being built in Dibra and Librazhd within one month, will it not be possible to accomplish the five-year plan of opening up virgin land at record time?» Harboring such revolutionary ideas we come to the conclusion that we can achieve further speedy results and from the work

of realizing these objectives we will even acquire richer experience in organizing our work. So far we have the experience of work in brigades, with brigade leaders, with squads in industry, agriculture and elsewhere. This experience of work with us has given good results but, after setting up staffs to direct the work of removing the aftermath of the earthquake, you called the commandants and members of staffs to account and assumed obligations before the Party and Government to fulfil the tasks assigned to you before schedule, because they are of major political and ideological importance within and outside Albania. Then all this force, this experience acquired will be utilized also towards further strengthening the work of the squads and brigades of production in agriculture, in industry, and so on. This revolutionary spirit shall be imparted and should be imparted as soon as possible to our schools as well.

The teachers of our schools should always bear in mind the directives of the Central Committee of our Party to link teaching as closely to life as possible and to exert constant efforts to cleanse the school programs and text books from the excessive dead wood which they are still laden with. Our school programs should be such as to enable our men to have a good training, not to allow teachers to cram the minds of students with futile things which will never be of any use to them. Therefore, the teachers should discard everything that is of no value in order to gain precious time to impart that necessary general culture which will help the students to become wide-awake in life. While still at school the students should learn to become skilful at farm work, in brick laying, to know how to cut window panes, to cover a roof, and so on. Our teachers should reflect a little deeper on these matters. The young volunteer from Vlora who took the floor at this meeting, told us here (and you know this yourselves) that the young men and young women students who have come here temporarily are now building walls, installing windows, covering roofs, and doing many odd things. This is how the line of the Party is being put into practice. Every one of us should master two or three professions. Thus, the students at school too, side by side with their lessons, should strive to learn to become masons, fitters, carpenters or learn every other profession of which our country stands in great need. These professions are not all acquired at school but in practice. The rapid organization to remove the aftermath of the earth-

quake in the Dibra and Librazhd districts will teach us many lessons in this line.

But what will result from the mastery of this great experience by our laboring masses in all sectors? This will bring great benefit to us. The Central Committee of the Party, for instance, when examining the 1968 plan, decided to advance the yields of various farm crops. Some very bold revolutionary steps were taken on this occasion which only the sleeping refuse to accept while revolutionaries will say that they are still too low.

Therefore, under these circumstances, you in Dibra too will be thinking: «The Central Committee is referring also to us that we should receive 40 qt of maize per hectare from one-fourth of the area planted to maize». I am convinced that you will be the first to pledge your word that, not from one-fourth but from one-half of these areas you will receive not 40 qt but 50 qt of maize per hectare. I say this because you are brave and patriotic people, like all our people; besides, you have good experience in the cultivation and irrigation of maize and the Party, as everywhere in our country, has opened up and will open up all opportunities, first and foremost, for your political and ideological uplift, giving you also other opportunities, and more of them in the days to come, in the form of selected seeds, fertilizers, and so on and so forth. You will not only carry out the decision of the Central Committee but, I am convinced, you will go beyond it and become thus standard-bearers for all Albania in this problem of growing maize. I say this with full conviction, for the proof is a fresh one: see how you set up thousands of houses within one month. No one could ever have thought of such a thing a little while before.

A positive example plays a major educational and inspiring role in our socialist society. Adem Reka grappled with the billows of the sea in order to protect socialist property. Undaunted cableman Pjetër Lleshi from Kukës fell at his post of duty, Comrades Muhamet Shehu and Myrteza Kepi flung themselves into the face of flames and fire. Their examples of heroism are a source of inspiration for all our workers and youth to carry out the tasks assigned to them without flinching. But in our country we do not only boast of such examples of heroism. We should utilize everything positive which crops up wherever our laboring masses create and turn out in silence, without making a lot of noise about it, in fulfilling

and, especially, in over-fulfilling the targets of our plans. We should turn their achievements and experience into political problems just as we did with the example of Communist Heroine Shkurte Pal-Vata, just as we have done with the heroes that fell in the National-liberation War and in socialist construction. What I mean is that we should take advantage of the good example set by even a cooperative member within a cooperative, brigade or squad. In your districts, too, you have marvellous brigades which receive, not 40 but also 80 or 90 quintals of maize per hectare. You should hold up these people who attain such records as banners, so that all can learn from their work and experience. National figures should stimulate, teach and inspire us to forge ahead but we must not forget that a cooperative member or a squad receiving 90 or 100 quintals of maize per hectare should be held out as a banner not for the cooperative alone but also for the district, even for Albania as a whole, so that all may strive to attain similar results. Then it will not be difficult at all, Comrades, to pledge to receive, as I said before, 50 or 60 qt of maize per hectare. The same thing can be said of wheat, sugar beet and of other farm crops.

Thus, Comrades, brothers and sisters, we should realize the economic plan we have decided upon with such great courage. On behalf of the Central Committee, I advise you to take up these problems again and, viewing them with a clear eye, from this angle and with this heart, to re-examine these plans with revolutionary energy and heroism and assume other, newer obligations. Organize your political and organizational work better for this purpose, inspire people to fulfil and over-fulfil the targets set in our plans. But, if we shall proceed (and there is no doubt that we will proceed) at the rate I explained now, by the end of 1968 we shall have created opportunities to produce during 1969 material wealth which we can not even imagine at this time.

Neither the Political Bureau nor the Government could have thought last year that we would be taking such bold decisions of historic significance as that of bringing electric lights to all the rural areas of Albania within a short period of less than four years. All of you know that we had taken a decision on this matter the realization of which was foreseen for 1985, that is, after 17-18 years. But, when the Political Bureau and Government came face to face with this great, unimaginable and indescribable drive of the Party and of

the people as a whole, this spirit of creativeness the decisions of the Central Committee gave rise to, then we had to take this matter up again and, after making our calculations, came to the final conclusion of winding up this task within a period of four years. This is a well calculated decision and will not effect any of the other indices of our plans. That is why I told you to take the example of the Political Bureau and Government as a clue and re-examine your plans. It is true that they are thickset but looking at them once again from this angle, in this political spirit, confidence and determination, fix new figures and inform the Central Committee that they have erred in fixing for you 40 quintals of maize per hectare while you are convinced that you will receive 50,60 and more quintals of maize per hectare, and we will admit our mistake and raise our hat to you.

But let us not pass over the question of electrification. We should by all means put into effect the decision of the 4th Plenum of the Central Committee which, in reality, is a major historic action, by the time and on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of our glorious Party. Its realization will be the work of the Party, the work of our marvellous people educated by the Party. There are other countries in the world which have more electric energy but have left the people in darkness and are not bothered at all about it. We are still in great need for electric energy. Lenin has said: «Communism means Soviet power plus electrification of the whole country». But by bringing electric light to all the rural areas of Albania in four years' time does not mean that we have reached communism. But, over and above the plan of our Party and State for electrification of the country, that is, for the development of all the branches of industry, for supplying agriculture with electric energy, etc., the Political Bureau, Government and the 4th Plenum of the Central Committee decided that, without culminating this major task within this brief four-year period, we should make every economic sacrifice in order to fulfil this need of our people, because their heroism at war and in socialist construction cannot be rewarded by any sacrifice whatsoever. Our patriotic people and peasantry fully deserve what we are doing for them, therefore, we should bring light to them wherever they are even to the remotest regions.

Electric light in rural areas will raise the cultural standard of the masses of our peasants to a higher level. Installing

electricity all over will cost us some hundreds of millions of new leks, but we will spend these funds for the purpose of providing light for all the rural areas of our country without handicapping any of the indices of our plan. Except that we must make it clear that in order to accomplish this task the full mobilization of all is called for. Therefore, we hold that we should every day profit as much as possible from the experience acquired so far which should apply everywhere so as to increase our income and create in this way as many funds in reserve as possible in order to meet every need that may present itself.

To create reserves does not mean to provide for military urgencies in times of danger alone but also to cope with calamities as this which afflicted your districts. You all realize now yourselves of what great value are the repeated recommendations of the Party to economize, to overfulfil plans, to guard and utilize materials efficiently, to wage the class struggle against enemies thieves, etc. Our State of the dictatorship of the proletariat creates such reserves to realize ever greater plans and cope with more adverse circumstances. Therefore, while striving to accomplish the planned tasks, we should simultaneously turn our attention to the tasks that will be assigned to us to provide electricity for our countryside.

In this respect, the villages themselves should take active part in realizing this task. They should help fell and transport timber, stretch cables, dig holes and install poles, connect wires and make inner installations, etc. But how will all these jobs be done? We will do them in an organized way. Let it not seem to us now that we have reached a perfect level of organization. No, these major revolutionary decisions themselves will compel and teach us how best to organize our work while carrying them out.

At present, many of our agricultural cooperatives are glad to have their own blacksmith, barber, tailor, and so on, but later on they will have to have also their own electrician who will know how to set turbines in motion, how to utilize electric energy to run pumps, to raise water for irrigation of plants, to run machines, to chop silage, etc. Such are the development prospects of our cooperatives, and this time will most doubtlessly come. Thus, it is not only felling and securing timber that we need but also the training of cadres, which is another important task we are faced with in connection with this decision.

The task I pointed out that every man should learn many professions is of major importance under our circumstances. But professions are not learnt in schools alone, they are acquired better and more while at work and taking part in mass actions. The Party is opening up great prospects for us, the people themselves are inspiring us through ability and initiative to do our utmost to carry out the decision on electrification within and, even, before schedule. We should exert all our efforts to realize on time everything connected with this decision including the training and education of cadres.

Everybody, especially in cities, is feeling the crisis we are now passing through for dwelling houses. We used to build more dwelling houses before and this was natural, since we lacked or had less possibilities to build more factories, workshops, combines, hydroelectric installations, etc. Now, however, we have made progress, we have begun to build factories, hydro-electric power-plants, to open up new mines, etc. by our own efforts. This building capacity of ours is making steady progress. Nevertheless, we have not neglected to build dwelling houses in cities. Further construction of socialism is an indispensability to the constant uplift of the all-round material welfare and cultural level of our people, for you may have a house, but of what use, if you lack bread, clothing, and so on and so forth. Therefore, we should set up more and more works to increase forces of production without neglecting, of course, the construction of dwelling houses. At the usual course, however, we cannot do more to keep pace with the growth of population. The girl or boy who was 10 or 15 years of age two five-year periods ago has now grown to be 20 or 25 years old, has been married and has his or own needs for housing. As a Republic, we are now nearing a population figure of 2 million souls. The problem of housing in the countryside is far lighter than in cities. We have planned to build houses also in cities but as time passes by more and more need is felt for investments to build dwelling houses. Can we accept a thing of this kind? We have to because all of us want to build dwelling houses for our workers who exert intense efforts, score heroism at work and are willing to do 13 or 14 hours of work a day but many of whom are hard up for living space, there being cases also where 5 persons live in a single room.

Therefore, our Party and Government should set going and solve this major problem just as they have done in other

fields. But how? Along the revolutionary way of the masses. The drive of our workers, of our masses themselves are teaching the Party how it should go about to solve this major problem. Let us make housing the concern of the masses; at the same time, let us take strict organizational measures to make a rigorous survey of our forests, see what we have, for a survey of our forests has long been made and it may be outdated. Therefore, every district, with the agricultural department in the lead, should designate the teams which with engage in the work of surveying forests, finding out how much lumber we have felled so far from there and how much more it is advisable to fell, keeping always in mind to increase its capacity from year to year. In short, to let the Party have a clear idea of the sacrifices we still have to make to provide timber for the houses we will build for the population. If it turns out that we have availabilities, then we should fell lumber in our forests to build comfortable one or two storey houses in the cities. And these houses will be built by the people themselves, mobilizing old and young, men and women for two hours a day after work just as you did at your village Burim where you rebuilt the ruined house of Halim Piku whose grandson was killed, etc. The masses themselves contributing to this matter, there is little doubt that we will build these houses also at lower costs. This will in no way hamper us in putting up high palaces along the main streets in cities, but in the inner quarters we are temporarily obliged to build small houses of two or three rooms and a kitchen for the people to dwell in. It is only in this manner that we will be able to facilitate the solution of such a big and urgent problem as that of housing the population. And during this major mass action people will learn not only one but two or three professions. Thus, when we start to build the big hydro-electric power-plant at Fierza and other works of the coming five-year plan, we will not have to worry where to find our carpenters, masons, electricians, etc. etc.; we will have trained and should have trained them on time for this purpose also. And this time will soon come; therefore, up to that time we should exert ourselves to train the tens of thousands of specialists of higher, secondary, lower or no vocational school level of whom we shall stand in need as a result of this major revolutionary drive which has gripped all our country.

For all these major works of the future we will, of course, have to have more cement, iron, and so on and so

forth. But where shall we find these? To supply these we will have to double, treble the capacity of our existing cement factories, to treble and even to increase five-fold the plan of smelting iron, so as to reach the target of 500,000 tons a year with the prospect of even one million tons a year, since it is a known fact that iron is as indispensable for industry as bread for human beings. If we have more iron and cement, then we will be able to put up palaces faster; since with the amounts we have at our disposal at present and those we plan to buy abroad we will have to build the factories we have planned without which our people's economy cannot make headway. Our people are familiar with these plans of our Party, they are convinced that they aim at constantly improving their standard of living, that is why they make even sacrifices, they realize that the line of the Party is a correct one, and that is why they are ready to exert themselves to forge always ahead, to receive high yields and reach all the targets of our plans in every respect.

Recently we set up some plants to produce chemical fertilizers but the needs for the latter are ever on the rise. Therefore, our Party Central Committee and our Government intend to double and treble their capacity, requiring thus less expenditure. Thus, instead of 120,000 tons of phosphate fertilizers a year, we will succeed in receiving up to 400,000 tons; we will strive likewise to double the capacity of the nitrate fertilizer plant, to increase the capacity of metallurgy tenfold and to process iron and chrome ore in the country. Our people's economy will thus draw major benefits. And thus, brothers and sisters, we will set up other major works one after another.

Our Party and people have already acquired a major experience, they are no longer making preparations from one year to another but concentrate their attention to distant prospects, making all-round preparations for the future. Thus does the Party also tackle the problem of training cadres not only in a few schools but 'en masse'; thus does it also proceed in creating reserves not only for the coming winter but to further strengthen the whole economy of our country which is proceeding ahead with large strides towards socialist construction.

All these intentions of our Party are fully realizable. Our Party and people will certainly substantiate them, because its line is a correct one, because the strength of our Party and people is colossal.

But we will not only set up buildings, we will also exert major efforts to keep improving year in year out also the standard of living of our people by supplying them with more and more farm and dairy products and all kinds of other goods for broad consumption. But how shall we go about it? Our experience in supplying the population with the necessary farm and dairy products is already rich, therefore, production will increase every year so that the people may have, first and foremost, more to eat, that they may clothe themselves and live better and be in good health, for the great task lying ahead demand more energy and good health.

The problem of the health of our people, Comrades should always be at the center of our attention. We should in no way undervalue this question, since, if we all set to work in a revolutionary spirit and drive to raise the output in industry, in agriculture and in any other sector, we do all this for the sole purpose of constantly improving the life of our people. That is why the Party should devote all its attention to man. This attention does not consist only of the constant improvement of his material conditions like food, clothing, housing, and so on, but also of a series of other things. This is a whole complexity of things ranging from the work for his political and ideological uplift, from the revolutionary practice to cleanliness, clothing, culture, the revolutionization of the soul of men, the struggle for the emancipation of women, class struggle and so on and so forth. Therefore, nothing should be taken apart. All of these are a whole complexity to be accounted for by the policy and ideology of our Party, and for the realization of which we should march with closed ranks.

What is of major importance is the fact that we have already created a glorious working class in our country who have acquired such rich experience in so short a period of time that can hardly be matched in other countries. This has happened for the simple reason that our workers have been kneaded with Marxist-Leninist ideology making them capable and masters at doing wonders. The State organs at the center and in districts are now faced with numerous proposals to set up new lines in the existing enterprises, and even whole new enterprises at that. All our workers are now very busily engaged in turning out products of prime necessity for the people, for our needs are still great for such. Do our people not want perhaps to eat out of a separate plate each? Of

course they do. But if in many cases our people used to eat formerly from one common dish, they did this not because of any backward mentality and custom but because of poverty, of having little to eat and, not only this, but they did not have in the past plates which some of them lack to this very day. Therefore we should strive to give more of every thing to the people of our rural regions. Under guidance of our Party, the Government will take all the measures and utilize all the availabilities we have and will see to it that more are produced of things to meet the daily needs of the people. This is a matter of major importance.

Therefore, within this tableau which I delineated in brief, great and heroic are the tasks, Comrades, which confront our Party, our Government and our people. But these are realizable, because our people posses great strength, ability, ingenuity and determination, they have the guidance of our Party, therefore, they will accomplish these tasks to the letter. Viewing it at this angle, the earthquake too did a lot of damage but it did good at the same time; we incurred a lot of expenditure but this expenditure cannot match the great benefits we attained, first of all, the pleasure the people felt at entering and at the prospect of entering into the new houses and, secondly, the great experience we acquired in this so very important mass action.

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of the Central Committee, of the other Comrades present here and in my own name I thank you once again from the bottom of my heart for the great fidelity you nurture towards our Party and our People's Power. This guarantees our achievements, guarantees the preservation of the freedom and independence of our socialist Fatherland from the numerous enemies who encircle and look at us askance. But the enemy may well bay at the moon, for our Party, through its correct line and its principled internationalist stand, has raised and is continually raising higher the prestige and authority of Albania in the world. Everywhere abroad people speak with respect of the People's Republic of Albania, and this not only our friends but our foes, too; even our sworn and barbarous enemies find it hard to hush up what our Party and people have done and are doing in politics, economy, education and culture, in all fields.

At the United Nations Organization, as our representa-

tive there informs us, the numerous friends of Albania representing the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America have been fascinated by what is being done in Albania. «Please», they say, «give us the decision of your Government on the earthquake,» because what we are doing is something inconceivable by them. Calamities have taken place and take place in capitalist countries but those afflicted have always been left helpless, at the crossroads. Casablanca, somewhat more than our two districts, was hit by an earthquake but who was there to come to the aid of the Moroccan people? That is why everybody is astonished at what is taking place here among us, that is why the representatives of many States speak with sympathy about our country, and not only on this occasion but, because they see the correct, consistent policy of the People's Republic of Albania at work in the United Nations in defense of peoples, they follow with sympathy our resolute stand against U.S. imperialism, Soviet revisionism and against other traitors to Marxism-Leninism. The representatives of these countries at the United Nations say that Albania is the only Member State of this Organization which maintains a correct attitude and strives with courage and heroism to defend the rights of peoples. These are not vain praises since those who say these things see that the correct Marxist-Leninist policy of our Party and our State upholds always what is right and exposes without mercy all injustices and villanies to which the peoples of the world are subjected by the U.S. and other imperialists and the Soviet revisionists.

It is for this reason that our Party commands the sympathy of all the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Everywhere in these countries people speak with ardent feelings of what is taking place in Albania, progressive forces want to know as much as possible of the work which is done in our country, express their desire to send over their men to acquire our experience and give ample opportunity to many revolutionary elements to visit Albania. Our achievements encourage them, arouse and strengthen their confidence and hopes, and they leave Albania with warmth in their hearts.

You know that Comrade Mehmet Shehu headed a Party and Government delegation some while ago to pay a visit to the People's Republic of China. He had talks there with Comrade Mao Tse-tung, with other Chinese leaders and

with the broad masses of the Chinese people and Communist Party, which has forged a great, I might say, a legendary sympathy for our people and the Party of Labor of Albania, which has popularized everywhere in China the revolutionary measures our Party and the Albanian people have taken and are taking. It was impossible, Comrade Mehmet says, for our delegation to pass through the streets without our cars being blocked for hours at a stretch by thousands and millions of people who wanted to salute our Comrades, giving rousing cheers for Albania, demonstrating in this way sentiments of deep sympathy and genuine proletarian internationalism with which they have been educated by the Party and Comrade Mao Tse-tung.

This friendship is the consequence of the correct line of our Party and State, of the steel-like unity which binds our Party with the Chinese Communist Party, with our great Comrade Mao Tse-tung, of the revolutionary stand of our Party, of our joint fight against revisionist traitors, of the internationalist aid which our two Parties and States give to our friends and revolutionary communist comrades everywhere in the world in order that they may organize the combat and hit the enemy.

All of these, brothers and sisters, must be viewed in its whole framework, as I said; our Party and State of the dictatorship of the proletariat by doing these things fulfil, at the same time, a high internationalist obligation towards comrades and brothers in other countries who struggle under unusually grave conditions of capitalist and revisionist terror.

In the Soviet Union where Khrushchevite revisionist traitors hold sway there has taken place an outburst of terror and jails are full both there and in other revisionist countries. They are imprisoning and murdering revolutionary comrades for the sole reason that they resist against Khrushchevite revisionist betrayal. But the revisionists will never succeed in holding the resistance of Marxist-Leninists in leash and, try as they may to cover up the repressive measures they practice against them, they are bound to come to light. Revolutionary elements are arrested in the Soviet Union and condemned allegedly for being terrorists because they possess weapons and bombs, they accuse them of being affiliated to revolutionary organizations.

The revolutionary movement of peoples and communists in the world is on the constant rise, that is why the imperia-

lists are up against a major political, economic and military crisis. The revisionists are likewise facing a major crisis in every direction. I will only speak briefly and in concise terms about this matter.

In recent times the English pound sterling was devaluated, and this devaluation will still continue further. This phenomenon has had grave consequences on the U.S. dollar which the U.S. imperialists are making all sorts of efforts to keep alive by raising taxes weighing heavily on the people, by intensifying their oppression and exploitation on the broad masses of people, and so on. This no doubt will give rise to further and graver discontent among the workers of capitalist countries. The devaluation of the pound sterling and the crisis of the US dollar will plunge into the abyss and in further and more aggravated crises the economy of all the other capitalist countries.

This economic crisis in the imperialist camp is causing major troubles also in the political field. NATO is cracking in all its joints. The U.S. imperialists are trying to force their partners to follow their course, the course of suppressing the national-liberation movements of peoples by armed force just as they themselves are doing in Vietnam. But these attempts have met everywhere with resistance. France, as you know, has practically abandoned NATO. This indicates the major weakness of this organization. Other member-countries try to sidetrack the U.S. dictate which tries to keep them within its fold. This means that a major political, military and economic crisis is under way which is gnawing at this organization from within. Thus, politically, economically and militarily speaking, within NATO there is a crisis, there are deep gaps which are constantly widening due to the growing revolutionary drive of the peoples. The general weakness of the capitalist and imperialist states is, thus, due to the growing revolutionary upsurge of the people, to the intensification of the national-liberation struggles, to the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people and, above all, to the weight and major achievements the People's Republic of China is attaining with each passing day.

Taking place in China at present is the great proletarian cultural revolution which is of major historic importance to the world. It rescued the People's Republic of China, socialist construction in this great country from the treachery of the Chinese Khrushchevite revisionists who, under the guise of

Mao Tse-tung's ideas and contrary to his directives, had long been at work and wormed their way into the leading posts of the Party and State so as to create the same situation in China as had been created in the Soviet Union. The danger lay in the fact that the Chinese revisionists had succeeded in having their men as high up as the upper organs of the Party, of the Government, of the mass organizations of Youth, Trade Unions, Women and, together with the Soviet revisionists and imperialists, conspired to do away with the dictatorship of the proletariat in China in order to restore capitalism in this great socialist country.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung and genuine revolutionary communists of China had long got a hint of this and were on the track of these enemies. Finally, Comrade Mao Tse-tung himself called on youth, on the working class and peasantry to march ahead towards the great proletarian cultural revolution. Millions of young men and young women, workers and peasants rose up and, with him in the lead, took part in this revolution whose objective is to uproot all anti-Marxist doings of the revisionist traitors, to take the reins of state, to purge it of all evil-doers and to create in this way a real revolutionary situation which should exist in a country where the dictatorship of the proletariat holds sway, where the class struggle can be waged with success, so that China may never change its red color, that it may be an insuperable bastion of socialism.

This goal was fully attained. Now the Chinese revisionist enemies have been trampled underfoot. Every district and city is witnessing the union of the revolutionary organizations of youth, of workers, and so on.

The successful development of the proletarian cultural revolution in China has enabled also the economy of the country to take long strides ahead. Industry has further developed, agriculture has forged ahead, some nuclear tests have successfully taken place one after another. Chinese atomic tests have been of such a level as to make the imperialists and revisionists fear the People's Republic of China from a military point of view, mainly because the Chinese are a revolutionary people, the Chinese People's Army is a revolutionary army, guided by a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist military doctrine, equipped with even nuclear weapons. Its correct policy and the force of weapons at its disposal have turned China into an invincible socialist State.

U.S. imperialism has, for many years, been plunged into the quagmire of the Vietnamese war and, though it has sent there about 500,000 troops, it has not extricated itself from the critical position into which the heroic people's war of the Vietnamese has plunged it, that is why it is incurring colossal military and political losses. Johnson's policy is shaking in all directions, it has caused financial and economic disturbances and great restlessness among the broad masses of the American people among whom there are hundreds of thousands who oppose the war of the U.S. imperialists in Vietnam, many of them daring even to stage demonstrations before the White House itself. This situation has given rise to fiery opposition on many political issues even among the U.S. imperialist magnates including some senators. The Vietnamese people alone, through their heroic battle against U.S. imperialism, have been causing a colossal, irreparable crisis to this colossus with clay feet, as Lenin has said of imperialism in general. Imagine then, Comrades, how much it fears great socialist China!

Chinese economy under continuous development has imperilled and continues to seriously imperil the world economy of capitalism and revisionism. Up to a little while ago China was a colossal market for goods. A few years ago the Soviet revisionists used to run to fat by selling goods to the People's Republic of China at prices that ranged from 50 to 60% higher than those of the world market. Japanese and other imperialists had also a good market for their products in China. But the Chinese market has now been closed to the imperialists and revisionists. China is speedily developing a big industry of its own, a thing which has made the Soviet Union and the other countries where revisionists are in power to accumulate large stocks of goods they produce. Not only this, but China is now able to sell its own high-grade products also to capitalist countries; at present it is, in fact, a big exporting state. Its goods find a ready market for their high quality also in capitalist countries. The productive forces of China are growing at a rapid rate. This causes grave disturbances to the economy of capitalist and revisionist countries. China is becoming a barometer which indicates the continual decline of the world capitalist economy and the uninterrupted strengthening of its own socialist economy.

A great moral, political and economic degeneration is being observed in the Soviet Union and in the countries where

revisionist cliques are in power. The degeneration of youth, in particular, is proceeding with big strides. The various forms of organization and management of economy, patterned after the capitalist ones, have created in the Soviet Union a situation exactly similar to that in Tito's Yugoslavia. On the other hand, by following the treacherous revisionist course in the domain of politics, the Soviet Union does no longer hold that position of hegemony it used to over the other countries run by revisionists in Europe and Asia. These states are continually getting into closer and more direct contact with the U.S., English, French and other imperialists.

What has been happening in the Soviet Union after Khrushchev's ouster? The revisionist leadership following him are striving to convene a joint meeting allegedly of the international communist movement in order to condemn China and Albania. But among the revisionist leaders of several countries themselves there is a divergence on this matter, not because they are fond of us but because they do not like to place themselves into the orbit of Soviet hegemony. That is why they waver. They are in favor of a meeting just so that they may say a word or two but in this way they will score no other than a big naught.

Joseph Broz Tito refuses to go to this meeting. It is not at all to the interest of U.S. imperialism that a meeting of all revisionists should take place, though it may be directed against China and Albania, against Marxism-Leninism. Titoite revisionists, who have long plunged themselves from top to toe against Marxism-Leninism, refuse to be placed under the reins of the Soviet Union whose aim it is to have all the modern revisionists under its command. Such a thing is not to the interests of the U.S. imperialists either. The latter want every revisionist country to have its hands free from ties with the Soviet Union so that they may more easily swallow it up, thus weakening the Soviet Union itself and compelling it to proceed faster and more openly along the road the U.S. imperialists want it to go. That is why revisionist Tito, as an inveterate agent of the Americans, has refused to go to this meeting, expressing the opinion that it should not be held whereas the Soviet revisionists exert pressure on him to go.

See what a situation the treacherous revisionist bandits have created! They have no principles. Their anti-socialist policy has aroused great discontent among the people of their

countries. This is a dialectic process under way. These discontents will gradually accumulate, swell up and, one day, will burst forth. Therefore, China, Albania, the new Marxist-Leninist parties and groups which have been and are being set up should temper themselves and intensify their battle against the revisionist traitors so that they may be crushed as soon as possible. It is our major duty to aid the fraternal peoples who writhe under revisionist oppression, to keep working unceasingly in order to continually consolidate our Party, our State, our economy and our army, to have them prepared and in the alert, to make them stronger, more solid and tempered so that the enemy may fear us.

Can Tito and the revisionists be put to the blush? No! They are scoundrels. The natural calamity which befell our brothers in Dibra on the other side of the border has placed the Titoites in an extremely embarrassing position, for, while on this side of the boundary, in our country where socialism is successfully being built, 5000 and more ruined and damaged houses are being set up within 20 days' time, on the other side of the boundary the people suffer not only because of the winter which has already begun but they will be suffering for years in succession. Yesterday the Titoites ordered even those 2 or 3 hundred specialists who had been sent there to depart claiming that now in winter there is snow and frost and no building could allegedly be set up, and so on. Some comrades coming from the frontier villages on this side of the boundary said here that they had seen what was happening on that side of the boundary: nothing is being done to heal the wounds of the earthquake except that the chauvinistic Serbian, Montenegrin and other Titoites are trying to take advantage of the havoc wrought by the earthquake to curb the resistance of the Albanian population; that is why they do their uttermost to remove the Dibrans to the four corners of Yugoslavia with a view to denationalize these Albanian regions. But they will never attain this objective for the Albanians, our brothers across the border, who have preserved their national sentiments, their mother-tongue, combative traditions and their unbounded love of country through centuries and generation after generation will never be downed no matter what the Titoites are apt to do against them. They are so tightly bound to the lands they have inherited from their ancestors, to the villages where they have been born that, in the case of this calamity, they have only removed

their children and taken them to friends somewhat distant while the grown-ups, men and women, old men and old women are staying on with insitance and without being helped, braving snow and frost.

Though they have had much less damage than we, the Yugoslav revisionists have resorted to all sorts of propaganda in order to grab as much as possible from all corners of the world under the pretext of helping the afflicted and have set their ambassadors in motion for this purpose. Thus, organizations of various countries of the world are sending to Yugoslavia money, clothes etc. but the population of Dibra across the border are not receiving even a third of them because most of them go into the pockets of Titoite bureaucrats. A lot of stealing took place on the occasion of the earthquake at Shkup (Skopje). Our Dibra brothers in Yugoslavia afflicted by the earthquake had only one «benefit», namely, that of the decisions reaching the number of 300 which the Titoite authorities took on this occasion for the sole purpose of how best to organize the embezzlement of the aid sent from abroad to those hit by the earthquake and not at all to rescue the damaged population. The Albanian people and the whole world are witnessing these monstrosities which are being practised on the suffering population.

Dear Comrades!

I apologize for having kept you so long, therefore on behalf of Comrades Mehmet, Adil, Kadri as well as in my name I thank you heartily for the attention you lent and for this warm, brotherly and comradely reception which pertains only to our Party, not to us as individuals, since we are nothing but soldiers of our Party just as you are. Our Party, you have charged us with heavy tasks and burdens which we will do our best to accomplish to the letter, standing always at the forefront of struggle in order to deserve the great confidence of the Party, of yourselves and of our people and we are well aware that by this we are doing nothing but our duty as communists.

For every thing, Comrades, we are indebted to the Party, to its correct line of action, to our heroic, intelligent and hard-working people, to the unity of the people with the Party, to the great sympathy for one another, to the unity, therefore, of the people themselves. When peasant Halim Piku

spoke to me yesterday of his grandson whom he had lost by the earthquake, he told me, among others, that he had forgotten the pain his grandson's death had caused him when he had learned of the death of the soldier who had laid down his life at his post of duty on the border. What does this show? These are the noblest of sentiments, they express that great spirit of solidarity and proletarian unity that exist inside our country. Such noble sentiments of this plain Dibra peasant express the sentiments of all our peasantry towards the line of our Party, towards our working class towards the masons, engineers, technicians and specialists who came at once of their own free will from all corners of our homeland to help their peasant brothers of the Dibra and Librazhdzi districts. This indicates how strong is the alliance of the working class with the cooperative peasantry in our country.

See what our working class has done! Workers from all corners sprang to their feet and came to help with all their means and skill to build the houses of their allied peasant comrades who had been afflicted by the earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdzi districts. In snow and frost but with the fire of the Party in their hearts, our heroic chauffeurs drive their motor vehicles day and night, at times without sleep or food, in order to transport to this place the necessary building material which the Party has decided to make a gift of in order to build houses, since they think of their brothers in need, of the women and children of Dibran and Librazhdzi so that they may be sheltered in warm houses as soon as possible. Praise to our heroic drivers! It is likewise worth mentioning the close ties of the peasants of these districts with the Army, with the border guards, with all the youth of our country. See how the line of our Party is, into what unbreakable knots the unity of our people among themselves and around the Party has been woven! That is why I say every thing is due to the Party, due to the people, while we are soldiers loyal to the last of our Party and State, of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

I ask you once again on behalf of my comrades and myself to convey to the people of your districts wherever you go the warmest good wishes of our Party, of our Government and of ourselves and to tell them that the Party is theirs as it has always been and will always be to the end of time. Every thing the Party does, every decision it takes aims at nothing

else but the good of the people, therefore, let us further temper in the heat of battle this steel-like Party-People unity!

Long live the Party!

Long live the people of Dibra!

Long live the people of Librazhdzi!

(taken in shorthand writing)

DECISION OF THE FOURTH PLENUM OF THE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF LABOR
OF ALBANIA «ON THE ELECTRIFICATION OF ALL
THE RURAL AREAS OF THE COUNTRY BY NO-
VEMBER 8, 1971 ON THE OCCASION OF THE
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING
OF THE PARTY»

*On December 11 & 12, 1967 a meeting was held
of the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of
the Party of Labor of Albania.*

*The Plenum of the Central Committee took up
the Report «On the Accomplishment of the 1961
State Plan and Budget and on the Tasks of the 1961
Draft-plan and Draft-budget» submitted by Member
of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee
Spiro Koleka as well as the Proposal of the Political
Bureau of the Central Committee «On the Electrifi-
cation of all the Rural Areas of the Country» and
took the decisions concerned. We are publishing
here the decision «On the Electrification of All the
Rural Areas of the Country».*

The Party and Government have always considered the electrification of the whole country as one of the fundamental tasks in the struggle to build socialism, to bring about the all-round economic and cultural development and progress of our homeland. They have always been inspired by the great Leninist idea that the rule of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the electrification of all the country are two main conditions to set up communist society.

During the years of People's Power our electrical industry has advanced with rapidity. As a consequence of the

construction of Hydro-electric Power-stations like those of «V.I. Lenin» in Tirana, of «K. Marx» and «F. Engels» on the Mati river, of «J. Stalin» on the Bistrica and thermo-Power Stations, production of electric energy in 1967 was 129 times as much as in 1945. Work has now started on a new big Hydro-electric Power-plant at Vau Dejës on the Drini river.

While carrying out the plan of the electrification of the whole country the Central Committee of the Party has devoted special attention also to the electrification of rural areas. Thanks to the care of the People's Power the number of villages brought under electrification so far has reached to 730 or nearly 29% of the total number of villages of our Republic. According to a prospective plan approved in 1960 the electrification of all the rural areas of our country was foreseen to be completed by 1985.

The Central Committee of the Party thinks that the concrete material and technical conditions and practical availabilities have already been created to step up the electrification of rural areas.

Relying on the revolutionary drive of our working masses, on their self-denying efforts to build socialism and make the homeland thrive, on their creative initiatives to step up socialist construction on their determination to overcome all obstacles in order to attain all revolutionary achievements as well as on the concrete availabilities to step up the complete electrification of the rural areas of our country, the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania, at its meeting on December 11 & 12, 1967

DECIDED:

1. — To take all necessary measures to complete the electrification of all the rural areas of our country by November 8, 1971 at the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of our glorious Party so that, 14 years before the time limit set by the prospective plan for the electrification of our countryside, no village in the People's Republic of Albania should lack electricity.
2. — The Central Committee of the Party appeals most vehemently to the working class, to the laboring peasantry, to the popular intelligentsia, calls on all Party organs and organizations, on all communists as well as on all the organs of the State and of economy of the country, to muster all

their efforts in carrying out the historic task of the electrification of all the rural areas of our country by November 8, 1971. The Central Committee calls on them to launch a general campaign to overreach the targets of the State plan approved by the 5th Party Congress, to increase production over plan especially of goods destined for export so that by increasing our exports we may increase the availabilities to import the necessary materials which will help implement the above historic task, it calls on them to strive to bring about a radical improvement of the quality of production and of the method of work, to raise yields, lower costs and prevent waste.

3. — The Central Committee of the Party calls on the organizations of the masses, on all State economic enterprises, organizations of the handicrafts and consumers' cooperatives, on units and detachments of the People's Army, on various state institutions as well as on agricultural cooperatives to exert all their efforts to complete the electrification of the rural areas of our country, to organize the most perfect cooperation on a district and national level in order to contribute effectively and on as large a scale as possible to reducing the expenses which the State will incur in electrifying the countryside and to carrying out with success this major historic task. Turn the complete electrification of the rural areas of our country in honor of the 30th anniversary of the founding of our Party into a powerful revolutionary movement to grip all the laboring masses and to give a further push ahead to socialist construction in Albania.

The Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania is fully confident that our heroic and hard working people under the leadership of our Party will respond with enthusiasm to this Call of the Party and will carry out with success this major historic task which is a further expression of the constant concern of our Party to bring about a further improvement of the life of our socialist countryside, a tangible manifestation of the vitality of the alliance of the working class with the laboring peasantry, a further step ahead towards narrowing down the difference between the countryside and the city.

THE FOURTH PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF LABOR OF ALBANIA

DECISION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

In line with the many revolutionary initiatives which are being taken by the laboring masses of our country resulting from the major revolutionary drive which has gripped all our country, in December 1967 the members of the Tragjas-Radhime Agricultural Cooperative in the Vlora district and those of the «Shkurte Pal Vata» Cooperative as well as the workers of the «29 Nëndori» State Farm in the Lushnjë district took the major revolutionary initiative to aid the remote mountain agricultural cooperative by supplying them with livestock.

This revolutionary initiative of socialist solidarity was heartily hailed and seconded by many agricultural cooperatives and State farms throughout the country.

We are publishing here below the decision of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania on this matter:

The Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania took note of the revolutionary initiative of the United Agricultural Cooperative of Tragjasi and Radhima of the Vlora district to make a present of a flock of 500 sheep and goats to the mountain Agricultural Cooperative of Pecaj in Dukagjini where 15-year old communist Shkurte Vata was born and was brought up who laid down her life on the post of duty building the Rogozhina-Fieri railroad; it also took note of the initiative of the «Shkurte Pal Vata's» Agricultural Cooperative of Gramshi and Golemi and of the «29

Nëntori» State Farm of the Lushnja district which was followed also by many other agricultural cooperatives and State Farms of many other districts to put at the disposal of the Council of Ministers a number of livestock, sheep, goats and cattle, in order to help the agricultural cooperatives in the remote mountainous regions.

The Council of Ministers takes cognizance of the fact that 5.220 head of cattle and 45.600 sheep and goats have already been placed at its disposal by agricultural cooperatives and state farms utilizing their latent reserves without affecting their plans to develop animal husbandry to distribute free of charge during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 to the agricultural cooperatives in remote mountain regions which stand in more need for livestock.

The Council of Ministers considers this great initiative of the older and economically more powerful cooperative and state farms to come to the aid of the agricultural cooperatives in the remote mountainous regions to be of a thoroughly revolutionary nature and spring from the rapid upsurge of the socialist sense of duty of our laboring peasantry; it is the embodiment of the Marxist-Leninist ideology of our Party which is constantly being mastered by our masses. This major revolutionary initiative is a tangible substantiation of the great Marxist-Leninist principle of the mutual socialist solidarity of the laboring masses, of placing the general interest above that of the individual, locality or of the group, the principle of the constant perfectioning of socialist relations between the state and cooperative sector of agriculture, between the cooperatives which are more powerful and less powerful economically, between the older and younger cooperatives, between the cooperatives in the plains and those in the mountainous regions, raising these relations to a higher level which will certainly lead to a frontal prosperity of our socialist agriculture.

Relying on the line of the Party «to make the mountain as fertile as the plains» and on the will and determination of the masses of workers and cooperative peasants and state farms who have taken the major revolutionary initiative to come to the aid of the agricultural cooperatives in remote mountainous regions, the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania.

DECIDED:

- 1) — To approve the request of agricultural cooperatives and state farms to place at the disposal of the Council of Ministers 5.220 head of cattle and 45.600 sheep and goats to be distributed free of charge to the agricultural cooperatives of the mountainous regions during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 and to congratulate most heartily for this high gesture of socialist solidarity all the cooperative members and workers of state farms who took and backed this major revolutionary initiative.
- 2) — The livestock placed at the disposal of the Council of Ministers by agricultural cooperatives and state farms to be given free of charge on behalf of the agricultural cooperatives and state farms which offered them, during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970, to the agricultural cooperatives in remote mountainous regions who stand in more need of livestock, in the Shkodra highlands, in those of the district of Tropoja, Puka, Mirdita and the Fani locality (the Kukës district).
- 3) — The Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with the Executive Committees of the People's Council of the districts concerned to take all the necessary measures to move and distribute the livestock offered among the agricultural cooperatives of the above regions which stand in more need of livestock, keeping in mind the needs, availabilities and conditions of each of them.
- 4) — The Council of Ministers calls on the mountainous cooperatives which will benefit by this fraternal aid of socialist solidarity by the agricultural cooperatives relatively more powerful economically and by state farms to respond to this major revolutionary initiative by exerting all their efforts: to bring about a speedy prosperity of the collective economy, to fulfil and overfulfil the plan targets of production and the major tasks set by the 5th Party Congress, to take all concrete measures to take good care of livestock offered to them free of charge by securing for them the necessary feeds and shelter so that these livestock may not have to be herded away from the cooperative grounds in winter, to train the necessary cadres and to profit as much as possible from the valuable experience of the agricultural cooperatives and state farms which have offered these livestock.

The Council of Ministers is certain that this major revolutionary initiative will serve as an important factor for

the further prosperity of our socialist countryside, for the further perfection of socialist relations within the ranks of our laboring peasantry as well as for the further consolidation of the alliance between the working class and the co-operative peasantry.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Tirana Jan. 5, 1968

«ON THE FULFILMENT OF THE STATE PLAN AND
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1967 AND THE TASKS
OF THE DRAFT STATE PLAN BUDGET FOR YEAR 1968»

*Report submitted to the 4th Session of the 6th Legislature
of the People's Assembly by Member of the Political Bureau,
Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, of the P.R.
of Albania, Deputy Haki Toska.*

Comrade Deputies,

The Fourth Session of the Sixth Legislature of the People's Assembly convenes after a year of revolutionary efforts exerted and brilliant victories achieved in carrying out the historic decisions of the 5th Party Congress.

During the year 1967, people and Party went through events of an extraordinary importance to the future of the country, revolution and socialism.

The important documents of the Party and Government published this year and, especially, the programmatic speech by Comrade E. Hoxha on February 6, have aroused and imparted new strength to the whole Party and people.

This session convenes at a time when our Fatherland, under the wise and far-sighted leadership of our heroic Party and Comrade E. Hoxha, is witnessing a greater number of creative initiatives being taken in rapid succession, which, as links of a sole chain, are being turned into ever broadening popular movements with deep political, ideological and economic contents, pushing, thus, uninterruptedly and consistently forward the revolution and the socialist construction of the country.

During this year, as a result of the all-out development of the creative forces of the people, of the ever broadening

mass movements, actions of great political, ideological and economic importance were undertaken and great results were achieved, for which, had it not been for these brave initiative and the active participation of the working masses themselves whole years would have been needed.

The completion of the collectivization of agriculture in the mountainous areas in record time, the movement to reduce the personal land plots, the powerful revolutionary movement to completely emancipate women, the struggle against religious beliefs and backward customs, the deepening of technical and scientific revolution, the numerous initiatives to increase production, the strengthening of the saving regime, as well as many others like these, have enabled the development of the productive forces to proceed by leaps and bounds and have perfected socialist relations in production.

All these go to show that the working masses, under the leadership of the Party, are giving priority to the latter's proletarian policy and are putting collective above personal interest in all their activities.

Through this revolutionary impetus, a new man is being tempered and kneaded to the features of communist morality endowed with a high spirit of patriotism and strong determination, with the spirit of collectivism and socialist solidarity with the revolutionary optimism, prepared to undertake great actions, surmount every difficulty and break off every norm of the old world and ideology, ready to make even the supreme sacrifice for the construction of socialism and defence of the Fatherland.

Here is the source of the massive heroism of our people. When one falls hundreds and thousands of others rise to push the cause of the revolution uninterruptedly forward.

From the ranks of the people new heroes are emerging everyday, like the 15 year old communist girl of the Dukagjini mountains Shkurte Pal Vata, the hero of all heroes Fuqela, and many many others who, the party ideal in their bosom, became torch-bearers inspiring our people to raise their virtues to new heights in their glorious epic of building socialist society.

This sound revolutionary situation vividly reflected itself in the great socialist solidarity, in the general readiness of the people in the North and South to eliminate in as short a time as ever before and as everywhere else the huge damage caused by a natural calamity — the earthquake that befell

the districts of Dibra and Librazhd. At the same time, our Party and Government took immediate and all-round measures to rebuild and repair within a month's time over 5500 damaged or destroyed houses, and we can say that up to now, overcoming the difficulties of an extremely severe winter, 4132 dwelling houses have been built up, that is over 75 per cent of all wrecked buildings, whereas, just on the other side of the border, in upper Dibra, in Titoite Yugoslavia, the people are roaming at large in search of shelter in bleak winter and in misery.

These expressions of enthusiasm and great political and revolutionary optimism, this great volcano of inexhaustible forces and energies, this so powerful political unity are neither accidental nor sentimental, but they have been successively built on the solid foundations of the great economic transformations, they have their roots in our social system, in the conditions of the material and moral life that have been created in our socialist society by the great force of the life-giving ideas of Marxism-Leninism, on the basis of which our Party has built and is building its line with unshaken confidence.

These are expressions of the vitality of the correct and clear line of our Party upholding the immortal teachings of Marxism-Leninism.

In this way the general Party line is being turned into an ever greater material force, this being the main guarantee that our Fatherland will always march triumphantly forward on the road to socialism and communism.

Resolutely pursuing the mass line in the building of socialism and the defence of our country during the year 1967, alongside with the growth of the economic potential, the defensive power of our country has been strengthened, too. Our socialist Albania has become more prosperous and more powerful, it has become an unconquerable bastion of revolution in Europe, against which the enemies of our people and Party — the imperialists, the Soviet and Titoite revisionists and all the other reactionaries — have broken and will break their heads.

We remind once more the Greek «stratocracy», the most ferocious of spring of the combined bourgeois reaction and U.S. imperialism, of the strong warning Comrade Enver Hoxha gave them at the 4th Congress of the Democratic Front of Albania: «No men have yet been born to be able to intimidate the Albanians. The boundaries of Albania and the Albanian

territory are protected by a people and Party who shower bullets on all those who would dare to encroach upon them», that the times have gone once and forever... when the Balkan chauvinist cliques backed by the imperialist powers used to rush with greedy appetite against the territory of Albania and played with its destinies.

This year has been, for our people and for all the revolutionary peoples, a year of new victories in the international arena. Our Party and people, armed with the great ideas of the 5th Congress of the Party, waged a resolute struggle to expose the aggressive policies of U.S.-led imperialism and the Soviet-U.S. conspiracy against the peoples of the world.

The great Chinese people, united as a single body under the leadership of the outstanding Marxist-Leninist Comrade Mao Tse-tung, have all of them sprung to their feet and are successfully developing the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, dealing thus a crushing blow at the handful of revisionists, at the avowed enemies of the Communist Party and Chinese people, at the diabolic aims of imperialists and Krushchovite revisionists who wanted to turn China back into the capitalist road.

This is another colossal victory of Marxism-Leninism which our people warmly greet. The visit paid recently by a Party and Government delegation headed by Comrade Mehmet Shehu to the P.R. of China was an event of great importance for the further and all-round strengthening of the fraternal, militant and deeply internationalist friendship linking our two Parties and peoples. This friendship serves the development and further consolidation of revolution in our two countries and the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist movement the world over. Through their courage and unshaken determination, the heroic Vietnamese people have dealt deadly blows at and inflicted heavy losses to the U.S. aggressors reducing, thus, the imperialist-revisionist plots to dust and ashes.

Our people and Government have supported and are vigorously supporting the legendary struggle of the Vietnamese people and express their unshakable confidence that the latter will achieve final victory over the U.S. aggressors.

The Albanian Government and people have resolutely supported the struggle of the Arab peoples and of all other peoples fighting for freedom and independence against U.S.-led international imperialism, against modern revisionism

headed by the Khrushchovite renegades and against all other reactionaries.

The international situation is favourable for the revolutionary movement and liberation struggle of the people. This struggle is on a continuos rise, it is being expanded and deepened at a time when the general positions of imperialism and modern revisionism are being weakened and gnawed at by internal contradictions showing more and more clearly with each passing day that they can't escape their final collapse and doom and that the future belongs to the peoples and revolution.

I.

Through Selfless Work And Incessant Efforts, Our People Have Scored Significant Victories In All The Fields Of The Development Of Economy and Culture During 1967

The tasks of the State plan and budget for the year 1967, which were adopted by the People's Assembly, were great and required and all-round mobilization of the moral and material forces of the country.

As you already know from the materials of the State plan and budget, the tasks of the plan for the development of economy and culture for the year 1967 are fulfilled and overfulfilled as a result of the high revolutionary spirit, of the tireless efforts and the creative spirit of our working class, cooperativist peasantry, people's intelligentsia and cadres under the leadership of the Party. This is a great victory of our people and Party.

The Council of Ministers, the State and economic organs in town and the countryside, working in accordance with the directives of the Party and Comrade Enver to carry out the decisions of the People's Assembly concerning the development of economy and culture for the year 1967, have striven to rely in their whole work on the active participation of the working masses, on their creative initiatives, have assigned a series of political, economic and organizational tasks and have further improved their method and style of work.

Important successes were achieved in the socialist indu-

strialization of the country. Industrial output for this year is fulfilled by 102 per cent as per plan, that is 11 per cent higher than the industrial output of the year 1966. Taking into consideration the greater tasks of this year, this increase is relatively high and surpasses the targets set by the Four Five Year Plan.

Through persistent struggle against various difficulties the workers of the geology, mining and oil industries, fulfilled and overfulfilled the planned tasks. Our heroic oil workers yielded 35 thousand tons of oil above plan. Good results were also achieved in the mining industry especially by the chrome and iron-nickel miners, etc. Deeper research work has been done in exploiting the ore reserves; its plan targets have been fulfilled in prospecting for oil, chrome ore, iron-nickel ore and overfulfilled in prospecting for copper ore, phosphorus, etc.

The workers of the machine-making, light and handicraft industries have done better work this year to meet the need of the people, of agriculture, in general, and of the remote mountainous regions, in particular. The tasks set for the production of the working-tools, ploughs and other agricultural implements, of construction materials and many other articles covering the needs of the countryside were overfulfilled. Great efforts have been made and good results have been achieved in the improvement of the quality of industrial products.

Good results have also been scored in commissioning new productive capacities in industry, especially in the production of phosphate fertilizers, caustic and calcinated soda, cement etc. At the same time, as a result of the deepening of the technical and scientific revolution and of the broad participation of the working masses in the movement for innovations and rationalizations a number of new lines and workshops have been built with our own forces; here should be included a number of new articles to better meet the needs of the country and replace many products which used to be imported from abroad.

Though good successes have been attained in the development of industrial production, nevertheless possibilities existed for doing more, because there are numerous unexploited reserves lying latent in this sector. A more persistent struggle should have been waged against the detrimental tendencies to run after global output in fulfilling the plan tasks, a thing that has often led to underestimating the tasks set

for improving quality and increasing assortments, etc. As good results as ever before were attained this year in agriculture due to the good work done by our cooperative peasants and by all the other workers of the country, due to numerous initiatives taken by the peasantry to the spread of advanced experience and scientific experimentation.

The plan of over-all agricultural production is fulfilled about 100 per cent, with an increase of 12 per cent above that of last year and 26 per cent above that of 1965.

Striving with revolutionary optimism to put into life the teachings of the Party to ensure the bread of the people in the country, the workers of agriculture did not only fulfil but overfulfilled the planned production of food grains. This year many state farms and agricultural cooperatives have reached the highest yields in wheat and maize ever achieved in our country. The State is going to accumulate about 11 per cent of food grains above plan. These results constitute another step forward ensuring the food in the country, they are another great political and economic victory of the Party and people and show that our socialist agriculture has entered a sure path always on the rise and it is resolutely marching on the road to its continuous intensification.

At the same time the workers of agriculture, assisted to a large extent by the State, have done good work in reclaiming new lands fulfilling this year's plan 118 per cent one month before schedule.

Good work has also been done in increasing irrigation capacities, in further mechanizing agricultural processes and supplying the peasantry with chemical fertilizers, seeds, insecticides, etc.

Carrying out the orientations of the 5th Party Congress industry and agriculture are resolutely improving the ratio between them, they are fulfilling better and better the needs of each other and of economy in general.

Satisfactory results have also been achieved in the fulfillment of the tasks of the plan in other sectors of economy and people's culture. The plan of transportation of goods is fulfilled 102 per cent in ton/km, the plan of investments 100 per cent and that of constructions about 101 per cent. During the year 1967, through selfless toil of the construction workers there were completed and commissioned a series of schemes of great national importance, such as the Cement Factory in Fush-Kruja, the Nitrate Fertilizer Plant in Fier,

the Soda Plant in Vlora, the Superphosphate Plant in Laci, two powerful radiostations, they completed the reclamation of the Durrës, Lezhe-Nartë, Divjakë, Karavasta marsh-lands, as well as the construction of many other works of a productive, social and cultural character.

Putting into life the Party directives and relying on the development of the productive forces and the increase of national income, another step forward was made in improving the well-being of the working masses. During this year a new cut in prices on some important articles of the broad consumption goods was decided upon and the participation of workers in productive work increased. The plan of goods circulation in socialist trade is fulfilled 102 per cent or 5 per cent above that of 1966.

All-round progress was made in the development of education, culture, people's health, housing, in electrifying the countryside and extending communal services, etc. All these go to show that the Party, side by side the development of the people's economy, holds the continuous raising of the material and cultural level of the working masses in the center of its attention.

The Party and the Government, pursuing a correct Marxist-Leninist economic policy based on the requirements of the objective economic laws of socialism and developing the management of the economy with the active participation of the working masses, encouraging and firmly supporting their initiatives and creative thought, have opened up the way to the uninterrupted development of our economy and culture, leading them, thus, to ever greater successes.

Applying widely and unhesitatingly capitalist methods and organisation forms in the management of economy, giving priority to profits and arousing the hysteria of material stimuli, flinging ever more open the doors to the big capitalist monopolies, the modern revisionists have met and are repeatedly meeting with failures in their management of economy, leading it along the road of capitalist degeneration.

As a result of the successful fulfilment of the plan of industrial and agricultural production and goods turn-over, the 1967 State budget has been fulfilled 101 per cent in incomes and 100,7 per cent in expenditures, thus ensuring a 110.000.000 leks surplus of incomes over expenditures.

The 1967 State budget financed regularly all the development needs of the people's economy and culture. Carrying

out the tasks put forward by the Declaration of the Party CC and the Council of Ministers on April 29, 1967, it successfully met all economic and financial facilitating measures in favour of agricultural cooperatives for the development of the productive forces and for the increase of the welfare of the workers of the countryside and town with an over-all financial effect of about 90 million leks. The all-round mobilization of the working masses and their various initiatives made it possible that the tasks for lowering the production costs in the year 1967 were overfulfilled by 100.000.000 leks, ensuring, thus, not only the financing of the expenses foreseen in the State budget, but also additional monetary funds in order to successfully cover all the new expenses that were needed during this five-year period.

Good work is being done in reducing the number of unpayable enterprises and the state agricultural enterprises have not only fulfilled the task of lowering their costs but also of reaching the planned profit figures.

While our finances and currency are becoming stronger and stronger with every passing day, new distressing phenomena are being witnessed in the capitalist world. The deep crisis the British pound is undergoing as a result of the anarchy and internal contradictions of capitalist society is being further deepened and drawing other capitalist currencies down its way. All these facts speak about the extremely critical and desperate situation the economy of capitalist countries is writhing in.

In general, the successes achieved in fulfilling the State plan and budget for the year 1967 are great, surpassing all that could be foreseen. But these results could have been even greater, if better, sounder and more revolutionary leading and organizational work had been done to make the most of all the possibilities and inner reserves, to further deepen and generalize the initiatives and creative thought of the workers, a thing which has not yet been promoted everywhere and in time and if the necessary political, organizational, technical and economic support had been given which has been lacking so far.

The year 1967 was not only a year of great victories on the economic front but, at the same time, an important one in the fight against bureaucratism, a year of further strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country. Along this line, good results have been achieved in further

perfecting the method and style of work in economic management and cultural administration.

These were, in brief, the results achieved in carrying out the 1967 State plan and budget. These successes are giving fresh impetus to the complete building of socialist society in our country.

From this high rostrum of the People's Assembly we greet and congratulate our heroic working class, our patriotic cooperativist peasantry, our wonderful youth, our revolutionary women, our people's intelligentsia and our glorious armed forces for all these brilliant successes achieved under the illuminated leadership of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha in fulfilling the tasks of the 1967 State plan and budget.

II.

The Tasks Of The 1968 Draft State Plan and Budget Are A Decisive Big Step Towards The Successful Fulfilment Of The Fourth Five Year Plan

The State and economic organs in town and in the countryside, taking into consideration the orientations of the Party on the active and direct participation at work and the creative thought of the urban and rural working masses have done greater and better organized work in drafting the 1968 State plan and budget.

The 1968 State plan and budget have been drafted in line with the main tasks set by the Fourth Five Year Plan adopted by the People's Assembly for this year and relying on the already achieved results, on the present state of development of the productive forces, on the experience gained so far in the management of people's economy, on the working masses and their revolutionary initiatives and movements.

By submitting to the Peoples Assembly the figures of the 1968 draft State plan and budget, in compliance with the orientations adopted by the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the C.C. of the P.L.A. the Council of Ministers is convinced that this plan is realistic, mobilizing and revolutionary.

1. The main features of the 1968 draft State plan and budget

The draft of the 1968 State plan and budget is a great and decisive step towards the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the tasks assigned by the 5th Party Congress for the development of our people's economy and culture. What are the main features of the draft State plan and budget for the year 1968.

Firstly. It is marked by a high rate of development of the people's economy and culture. The social product which, as is known, should reflect in its concentrated form the dynamics of the development of our people's economy, in the year 1968 is expected to grow over 17 per cent as against that 1967 while the average yearly increase foreseen for the Fourth Five Year Plan is about 8 per cent, whereas the development of our economy in 1967 was 7,5 per cent as compared with the year 1966. At such a high tempo, the level of social production foreseen by the Fourth Five Year Plan for the year 1969 will be reached as early as 1968.

Secondly. The draft State plan and budget for the year 1968 envisage further improvements and a harmonious development of the various branches of the people's economy, first of all, of the two main branches — industry and agriculture. According to the tasks of the draft State plan and budget, which are being submitted for approval, the process of socialist industrialization will be further deepened relying on our own forces and on the further development of the technical and scientific revolution. Agriculture also will be further developed through intensification and reclamation of new lands in the lowlands as well as on the hillsides and mountainous areas.

Thirdly. The draft State plan and budget foresee major tasks not only in the field of increasing the social production, but in the field of its distribution as well. A more rational distribution of the national income will be made on the basis of the increase of production and a more thorough exploitation of inner resources. As a consequence, an important part of the surplus national income accumulated above the figure foreseen for the year 1968 will go to the accumulation funds and, in this way, the accumulation quota will reach 32,6 per cent as against 28 per cent foreseen by the Fourth Five Year Plan.

By adding something more to the accumulation funds we do not only ensure the fulfilment of the tasks of the Fourth Five Year Plan in raising the well-being of the urban and rural workers but we also lay a new basis for its further uplift.

Fourthly. During the year 1968, according to the tasks assigned by the draft State plan and budget, big strides will be made to deepen the cultural and ideological revolution. In the process of deepening this revolution, the fight against bureaucratism will be further broadened and, on the basis of the teachings of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha, fresh efforts shall be made in our country to develop and bring ever forward the technical and scientific revolution in an atmosphere of enthusiasm.

Analysing the tasks and peculiarities of the 1968 draft State plan and budget the Council of Ministers emphasizes that they embody the general Party line and the objective economic laws of socialism in the concrete conditions of our country.

2. The Main Development Trends Of Our People's Economy And Culture During The Year 1968

The 1968 draft plan provides for a further development of industry. Following the correct line set out by the Fifth Party Congress for socialist industrialization of the country and taking into consideration our present needs and availabilities, we foresee a 20.7% increase of the industrial production above the 1967 plan for the coming year. Thus it will be possible to ensure an industrial production 9 per cent bigger than foreseen for this year in the Fourth Five Year Plan, or in other words, the level of the industrial production foreseen for 1969 will be reached by the end of 1968.

1968 will be characterized by a considerable growth of industrial output in almost all the branches of industry. In particular, as against the 1967 plan, the industrial output of 1968 will increase as follows:

In oil industry 22%, coal industry 15%, chrome industry 18%, copper industry 50%, power industry 37%, machine-making industry 26%, chemical industry 53%, building materials industry 35%, light industry 22%, food industry 12%, etc. In 1968 there will be produced over the tasks foreseen

for the Five Year Plan: oil 8%, coal 5%, chrome ore 8%, phosphate fertilizers 11%, copper wires 13%, cement 17%, electric energy 15%, footwear 23%, food and industrial fats 26%, etc. In 1968, for the first time, agricultural production will be based exclusively on the socialist sector. Agricultural production will be about 12% greater than in 1967. In comparison with 1965, there will be an increase of about 41% in both branches of agriculture, farming and animal husbandry taken together. In 1968 they will grow 16% and 8% respectively more than during 1967. At the same time, the structure of farming production will further improve.

The tasks of promoting agricultural production will be attained through its further intensification, expanding its acreage and reclaiming new lands in remote hillside and mountainous areas; through the mobilization and selfless efforts of the workers of agriculture, using organic manure and chemical fertilizers on a wider scale and doing agricultural work well and in time, increasing irrigation capacities, generalizing advanced experience, further extending scientific experimentation. The tasks of the 1968 draft plan, envisage the following increases of field crops and against 1967: food grains 8%, sunflower 16%, cotton 9%, tobacco 8%, etc.

At the same time, the 1968 draft plan envisages the reclamation of 25.000 hectares of new land, about 20.000 hectares of which will be turned to arable land.

In the 1968 draft plan greater tasks are assigned for the development of transport than those foreseen by the Fourth Five Year Plan, in order to meet the ever growing needs of the economy. Thus in comparison with 1967 the over-all movements of goods and passenger in 1968 will increase by 8% and 18% respectively.

In the investments and construction field, the 1968 plan foresees a growth of about 7% and 10% respectively as compared with the tasks set by the present Five Year Plan.

While assigning these tasks in the investments and construction field there has been taken into consideration a further improvement of the structures of the latter by increasing the specific weight of investments in the production sphere.

Thus, in 1968 the specific weight of investments in the productive sectors will be 85.8% as against 83.6% foreseen for this year by the Fourth Five Year Plan. The funds to be used next year in investments and constructions are considerably larger.

We are just carrying out a grandiose program in building industrial irrigation and drainage schemes, in developing transports and, particularly, the railway lines as well as many other schemes of a social and cultural character.

1968 will see the implementation of the decision of the 4th Plenary Meeting of the C.C. to complete the electrification of the rural areas of our country within the coming 4 years that is, 14 years ahead of schedule. Carrying this decision out will mark another important step in further raising the well-being of our countryside, in further strengthening the alliance between the working class and the peasantry, thus narrowing down the gap between town and village, between agriculture and industry. Applying Lenin's thesis that communism is the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat plus the electrification of the whole country, our Party has always attached particular attention to electrification.

This decision of the Party is of an extraordinary political ideological and economic importance, it is a grandiose plan of a thorough and rapid revolution in the all-sided development of the countryside, which will make it more invigorating, more flourishing and stronger through the development and intensification of agriculture. Setting up a series of power and hydropower plants and a broad network of high tension lines will raise our country to the level of the industrialized and electrified ones within a relatively short time.

This decision of the Party is a great event, an unparalleled revolution which will go down in history as a gigantic battle of our heroic people against the century-old darkness, a struggle to erect the monument of the life-giving light that has been brought by the Party led by our great and beloved teacher Comrade E. Hoxha.

Our people all over the country received this happy news with an indescribable enthusiasm and responded to the call of the Party with new initiatives to fulfil and overfulfil the plan tasks starting with concrete actions the four-year-long struggle for light.

To fulfil the tasks laid out by this decision the Council of Ministers, the State and economic organs are studying and taking concrete measures in order to respond to the mobilization, readiness and eagerness of the working masses to electrify our countryside as soon as possible.

These great tasks in the field of investments are based on the enthusiasm and revolutionary impetus of the people, on

the numerous initiatives that have sprung up from their ranks, on the material and financial means of the country as well as on the internationalist support and aid the P.R. of China gives us.

A bigger increase in social production and national income and the establishment of an as correct ratio of distribution as possible enable the living standard of the working masses of town and countryside to be further raised during the year 1968, alongside with the over-all development of people's economy.

Therefore, in comparison with 1965, in 1968 the real income of the workers and employees will increase by 7%, as against 9%-11% envisaged for 1970, whereas those of the peasants will go up by 17% as against 20%-25% foreseen for 1970 by the 4th Five Year Plan.

Marching with these big strides, the tasks set by the 5th Party Congress concerning the increase of the people's welfare will be fulfilled ahead of schedule.

The draft State budget for the year 1968, which is being submitted to the people's Assembly for discussion and adoption, has been worked out on the basis of the indices of this draft plan, too.

According to the draft budget, the income will reach 4.025 million leks, or 7,6% more than in 1967, and the expenses 3.985 million leks, or 9,8% bigger than in 1967, with a 40.000.000 leks surplus of incomes over expenses.

The financial sources of the budget, which are almost wholly based on the socialist sector of economy, are great and ever on the rise. Here in lies the main guarantee that our budget will completely cope with the further development of the people's economy and culture. During 1968, on the basis of increasing production, a bigger range of better quality goods, lower production costs and turnover expenses will be achieved, ensuring, thus, a higher accumulation rate from the circulation of goods and a greater profits surplus of about 300.000.000 leks. Almost all this surplus will be used to finance and develop the productive sectors of the people's economy. The draft budget for next year envisages higher expenditures for education, culture, health services, social insurances, etc. The necessary funds are foreseen in the draft budget for our People's Army, which is an invincible force prepared to fight enemies of all hues, no matter how strong, were they to dare to encroach upon the freedom and independence of our

Fatherland. At the same time, our People's Army is a sure guarantee of the revolution and the peaceful work of our people. Our budget, quite different from the budgets of capitalist states, is always a budget aimed at stimulating production and serving the development of the people's economy and culture.

This is the main feature of our budget which originates from the very nature of the socialist order and reflects properly the objective economic laws of socialism.

Carrying out the tasks the 1968 draft budget calls for the masses to be acquainted with financial questions, to take them up and discuss at meetings of the collectives and production centers, in order to increase discipline and responsibility not only for the fulfilment but also for the overfulfilment of the economic and financial indices.

III

Most Important Questions Calling For Highest Attention To Successfully Carry Out The 1968 Draft State Plan And Budget.

In line with the orientations of the Party, with the decisions the People's Assembly will take at this session and relying on the tireless work and creative thought of the masses, the Council of Ministers will concentrate all its efforts and those of all the State and economic organs first and foremost on these questions.

1) Industrial Output To Be Increased On The Basis Of Our Inner Resources To Better Meet The All-round Needs Of The People And People's Economy

During 1968 industry is faced with most important and unprecedented tasks. Relying on our inner resources, making all-round efforts to deepen the technical and scientific revolution, further extending the mass movement for innovations and rationalizations, the great needs of the people's economy in raw materials, fuel, electric power, spare parts, construc-

tion materials, timber, as well as the ever increasing needs of the population for consumption goods will be better satisfied as a result of the increase of their purchasing power.

In the development of industry, the production of oil and other kinds of fuel will, as always, occupy a place of first rank importance alongside with a big rise in the extraction of minerals such as chrome, copper, iron, nickel, etc.

Geological survey work during 1968 will be intensified, especially, in prospecting for oil, gas and other minerals. As to oil, we shall go over to deeper drilling of oil wells, the level of studies will be raised to a higher degree and drilling technology will be improved to further reduce break-downs, so that not only the fulfilment of the plan tasks but also their overfulfilment be ensured at as lower costs as possible.

Increased production in the machine-making industry on the basis of a better exploitation of the existing productive capacities, remains one of the most important tasks for the next year. A big scientific programme has been adopted by the Third Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee for this purpose.

The Council of Ministers and the State and economic organs are doing their uttermost to carry out the tasks assigned by this programme: to push forward this important branch of economy in order to further consolidate the material and technical basis of socialism.

The rapid increase of the production of general consumer goods on the basis of our present availabilities and inner resources to meet the ever increasing demands of the population of town and of the countryside constitutes a problem of special importance for the workers of industry. In line with the orientations of the Party to produce simpler, better and cheaper consumer goods, the Council of Ministers, the State and economic organs, relying on the technical and scientific revolution, are taking measures to pass over from handicrafts to industrial production of these goods, that is, to large-scale industrial production. Therefore, it is necessary to continue putting technology of production on a broader scientific basis, applying and strengthening the scientific production discipline and expanding the network of special mechanized workshops for the production of general consumer goods. Meanwhile, vast tasks are set before us in order to accelerate the appropriation and full exploitation of productive capacities, especially, of the recently commissioned works.

2. To Consolidate And Pursue Further Ahead With Greater Resolution And Revolutionary Impetus The Victories Already Achieved In Agriculture During These Two Years Of The Fourth Five Year Plan

The tasks in agriculture are great and decisive to successfully carry out the Fourth Five Year Plan both in the people economy, in general, and in agriculture, in particular. Therefore, 1968 should go down as the year further consolidating the results already achieved in the development of agriculture. It should become for all the people the year of the great triumph. Carrying out the revolutionary orientations of the 5th Party Congress to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains as a great vital problem, we should rely first and foremost on all people working in agriculture, on our patriotic peasantry, on the tireless work, initiatives and experience, on modern agricultural technique, and define in due time all necessary political, technical and organizational measures in order to cope with every difficulty, preserve stability by all means and further increase agricultural output regardless of weather. The most important question is that all without exception and the working people of agriculture in the first place should deeply understand the problem of increasing the food grain production, which constitutes the main task in agriculture, being a great political problem and the struggle for bread, under the international circumstances we are building socialism, being of special importance to the destinies of our revolution. For the fulfilment of the 1968 plan tasks in agriculture, all material and technical availabilities must be mobilized, all the people working in agriculture should spring to their feet and align themselves into a mighty mass movement, in order to generalize the results of the scientific experimentation on a broader scale and duly apply agricultural technique to all crops, especially, to cereals, ensuring, first and foremost, efficient fertilization, irrigation, tilling and land systematization. At present, thanks to a richer experience and the existing technical and material conditions, great possibilities have been created in the sector of agriculture, in order to effect a great leap forward in the impetuous growth of agricultural production. Almost in all agricultural economies there are teams and brigades that have reaped 30 quintals of wheat and 40 quintals of corn per hectare. These figures which only not long ago used to be rare phenomena, have now become quite

common. During 1968 greater attention should be paid to measures for the improvement of animal husbandry which is the weakest link of the people's economy. As known recently, the C.C. of the Party approved an all-round and prospective programme for the rapid growth of cattle breeding in general and milk cows in particular as an important source to better meet the needs of the people and economy for milk, meat, draught oxen and leather, to put the development of animal husbandry on sounder bases in conformity with the demands and new possibilities of the country. The Council of Ministers and all the State organs in town and in countryside, all the enterprises and agricultural cooperatives are putting into practice these orientations to make a better use of all existing resources and speed up the development of this branch. Next year measures will be taken to gradually make animal husbandry play a greater role in the development of agriculture as well as in other sectors of people's economy. Our people have achieved great victories in the socialist transformation of the remote hillside and mountainous areas.

Responding to our Party's call, the peasantry of these areas as well as all over our country are making great efforts and selflessly striving to put into effect the political, ideological, social and economic tasks set forth by the Party. This is the surest guarantee that the tasks concerning the development of agriculture will be fulfilled. We are living through days of great enthusiasm, an epoch of unheard-of revolutionary mass movements with a deep and clear ideological contents, when our highlands are undergoing an all-round development. The Call of the Party at its 5th Congress to stick to the hills and mountains and make them as beautiful and fertile as the plains is being put more and more by the working masses into practice. Making the ideology of our Party and the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha their own, the Gramshi, Golemi, Lushnja, Tragjasi, Radhima (Vlorë district), Zharrës (Fier district) and many other lowland cooperatives, on the initiative of the cooperativists themselves, are helping with their draught animals and in a spirit of great heroism, their fellow brothers of the agricultural cooperatives possessing fewer cattle in the remote highlands, so that they too may soon become a great source of milk, butter and meat, they may rely on their own forces and keep pace with the country as a whole in socialist construction. This readiness of the economically better off cooperatives to help their brothers of the

highlands with cattle and sheep bears witness to their deep and unparalleled feeling of solidarity, to their determination to do away with petty-bourgeois egoism and private ownership and expresses the high degree of political class awareness our Party has imparted to our wonderful people striving to make our fatherland more beautiful, it shows likewise that, as a result of collectivization, the old cooperatives have achieved tremendous results thus increasing their economic potential.

Such initiatives can be taken only in countries where people are real masters of their State and economy.

Taking into consideration the fact that the agricultural cooperatives in remote mountain areas are young and the cooperativists of these regions are working in conditions more difficult than those of the lowlands, the greater are now the tasks for reclaiming virgin lands, increasing food grain production and developing stock breeding. During 1968 the Council of Ministers will pay special attention to them. Alongside with other measures, the Council of Ministers, as already announced, has decided to have all the villages of the two remotest mountain regions of Dukagjin and Kelmendi, in the Shkodra district, electrified within 1968, this being the first step towards crossing over from the electrification of single villages to that of whole districts, thus carrying out the decisions of the 4th Plenary Meeting of C.C. of the Party on the total electrification of our countryside. Meanwhile, all State and economic organs should attach greater attention to hillside and mountain areas during the coming year. The agricultural cooperatives of these areas will be backed and helped with well trained and experienced specialists and cadres, while a considerable number of other specialists are being trained in different courses and schools. They will be supplied with fertilizers, selected seeds, construction materials for setting up irrigation and economic schemes, and receive all sorts of help through agricultural credits, etc.

The selfless work of the cooperatives themselves and the all-round support that will be given them will bring about a rapid economic social and cultural development in these areas.

3. More Attention To Be Paid To Better Meet The Needs Of The People In The Field Of Trade And Communal Services

The 1968 plan assigns important tasks to raise still higher the cultural and material level of life of the working people and better meet their ever increasing needs for various commodities and services. These tasks are important and require a revolutionary approach stimulating the working masses to raise the activity of State and economic organs to a higher level, avoiding shortcomings noticed up to now and meeting the ever increasing needs of the people. The Council of Ministers and the State and economic organs are taking measures to ensure the production of a wider range of better, cheaper, simpler and nicer mass consumption goods and their just distribution between town and the countryside, between low and high land areas. During 1968 more attention will be paid to meet the needs of the people with several kinds of services through their further development and improvement.

Taking into account the fact that services have not yet been developed to such a degree as to meet the existing needs, better work should be done to extend them all over the country and, especially, to areas lagging behind in this respect. Proceeding from the continuous recommendations of our Party, the 1968 plan tasks provide that trade network, accumulation and services be further improved and expanded particularly to the remotest areas of the country.

The workers of trade and other services, imbued with the ideology of our Party, will work still better to serve our wonderful people, because they are, as the Party teaches them, true servants of the people.

4. Further Develop Revolutionization Of Education And Culture in Depth And Breadth And Make People Assimilate And Consider Science As A Necessity For The Complete Construction Of Socialist Society.

The development of education and culture and, particularly, their revolutionization make up one of the most important tasks for deepening the ideological and cultural revolution. Although many changes have already taken place, the further revolutionization of the people's education requires a

profound transformation in the contents of the teaching, education, textbooks and in the system of education itself.

In this great and very important work, the active and all-round participation of the broad masses of teachers, pupils and students as well as of other working people will be further extended and deepened.

For this purpose as well as for carrying out the orientation of the Party to make the technical and scientific revolution gain in depth and breadth, the Council of Ministers and State organs are studying and working out new measures for all institutions of people's education. To serve this purpose, a deeper and more effective work will be done to raise the educational, technical and professional level of the worker and cooperative members, in order to develop the types of schools better providing the worker and peasant with technical theoretical and practical knowledge which are indispensable for passing over from the handicraft stage of development to the stage of industrial production with an advanced technique and to modern agricultural technique. In this field, measures are already being taken and will still be taken to sum up and better popularize in time and on a wider scale the various initiatives that have sprung up for the development of professional education, in order that we may be able to set up in a few years a massive system of professional education from the simplest to the highest forms. In the cultural and artistic field, although great progress has already been made, 1968 will witness fresher attempts to reflect the reality and pathos of our days in all their grandeur and educative force. Further development and deepening of the revolutionary movement to do away with religious beliefs, backward customs and fight for a more cultured life, especially in the countryside, remain very important actual tasks of the cultural and artistic life for 1968, too.

The State organs and cultural institutions concerned will further deepen their links with the present mass actions, with the ideological and political initiatives which will be the surest guarantee for further revolutionizing the form and substance of artistic productions and cultural activities.

5. The Great Proportions Of Economy And The Tasks Of Present Stage Development Of The Country And The Ever Broader Participation Of The People In The Movement To Prevent Waste

The revolutionary impetus sweeping over our working masses during 1967 made it possible for them to achieve satisfactory results in carrying out the plan indices in quantity and quality and, especially, in reducing production and turn-over costs. Experience shows that when our working masses rise to a higher consciousness and get better acquainted with the tasks of the plan, they are able to find out new forms and methods to further improve their work, making a fuller use of the inner resources and organizing production better. Therefore, this great truth must be more resolutely applied in all activities to strengthen the saving regime. At a time when the State plan and budget indices are discussed at enterprises and economic organizations all over the country, special attention should be attached to solving cost and financial problems in building schemes and investments, raising these questions for mass discussion in a simple and understandable form. It is only in this way that the saving regime will become a second nature with every worker as our Party always teaches us.

Comrade Deputies!

In the process of deepening our revolution, the draft of State plan and budget submitted for adoption makes up a combative and revolutionary programme requiring further steps to be taken in the struggle against bureaucratism, for a revolutionary method and style at work. The successful fulfilment and overfulfilment of the 1968 targets of the State plan and budget makes it incumbent upon us to build up the entire management of economy on the basis of the creative thought and revolutionary initiatives and movements of the masses which should grow into mighty schools where the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and the teachings of our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha are firmly grasped, applied and turned into a great incentive force for the further development of the productive forces. Carrying out the plan and budget tasks requires toil and sweat, hard work and relentless study. It requires, as the Party always teaches us, a sharp revolutionary vigilance. Our people, as always, will not spare their

efforts, they will successfully carry out their tasks and attain new and even greater victories along the path of the socialist construction of the country. A guarantee for this is the leadership of our glorious Party and our wonderful, brave and industrious people.

The Council of Ministers is fully convinced that this plan will be successfully put into effect by raising higher and higher the revolutionary spirit of the working masses and powerfully relying on them. Marching along this brilliant road, led by the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha, our people will always forge ahead and the ever victorious red banner of Marxism-Leninism will always fly high over our socialist Fatherland.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE STATISTICAL BOARD ON THE COMPLETION OF THE 1967 STATE PLAN

1967 was a year of major achievements attained by our working class, laboring peasantry and popular intelligentsia under the guidance of our Party. The historic 5th Congress of the Party of Labor of Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha's 1967 February 6 programmatic speech, the 1967 April 29 joint Statement by the CC of the Party of Labor of Albania and the Council of Ministers, Comrade Enver Hoxha's historic Report to the 4th Congress of the Democratic Front and other recent documents of the Party and Government aroused an unprecedented drive and heroism at work and revolutionized still further our workers' thoughts and sense of duty. They became a source of inspiration which expressed itself in heroic acts like that of Shkurte Pal Vata, in the socialist solidarity of all our workers to repair all damages caused by the 30 November earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts, in developing creative initiatives of communist contents and in the further improvement of the method and style of work. Consequently very good results were attained in the accomplishment of the planned tasks in all the branches of our economy.

I. — INDUSTRY

The planned targets of the principal industrial products were reached: in crude oil - 104%, fuel - 101%, bitume-107%, coal-101%, chromium ore-105%, blister copper-103%, copper wires-101%, ironnickel ore-101%, cast and rolled iron-100%, chemical fertilizers-97%, sulphuric acid-129%, caustic and calcined soda - 167%, electric energy - 99% diesel engines - 101%, elec-

tric-motors - 112%, transformers - 108%, machinery and other equipments - 120%, spare parts - 104%, cement - 103%, «Emanit» tubes and slabs - 100%, sawed timber - 106%, wood-shavings and fiber slabs - 108%, plywood - 97%, veneer wood - 103%, paper and cardboard - 94%, fabrics - 105%, cloth - 103%, footwear - 101%, fishing - 107%, sugar - 129%, edible fat - 119%, maccaroni - 100%, cigarettes - 102%, soaps - 101%, etc.

Over-all industrial production plan was fulfilled - 103.5% or 12.8%, above that of 1966 of which in the electric industry - 34%, naphtha - 12%, coal - 12%, bitumen - 7%, chromium - 6%, copper - 10%, iron-nickel - 34%, chemicals - 2.8%, times much, materials of construction - 29%, machine-making - 29%, glassware and ceramics - 17%, wood and paper - 7%, light industry - 13%, and in the food-processing industry - 3%.

Geological workers wound up the year 1967 with satisfactory results in exploring and detecting useful mineral bed. The plan of increasing industrial resources in naphtha, copper and iron-nickel was fulfilled 100%, in chromium - 106%, in coal - 210%, etc. The plan of deep research boring for naphtha was fulfilled 109%, that of drilling operations 101%, of chromium mining - 122%, coal mining - 101%, Crelius drilling - 105%, etc.

During 1967 the industrial workers have embarked on more vigorous and bold mass activities to deepen the technic and scientific revolution, to promote the mechanization of the processes of work, to set up new units, factories and workshop by their own efforts and with their own means, to turn out more new products, to improve quality, etc. Thus, by their own efforts and with their own means they set up the «Tirana Workshop» which turns out products for broad consumption, the training-workshop at the «7 Nëntori» Polytechnicum, the sector to produce electrodes at the «Partizani» Machineshop in Tirana, the sector to turn out high-precision mechanical equipment, the sector to repair spare parts at the State Machine Repair Shop and that of producing micro-porous slippers at the State Rubber Works in Durrës, the sector to turn out knitwear made of synthetic mixed with woolen threads and that of turning out men's shirts at the State Knitting Factory in Korça, the department to manufacture cigarette lighters and flashlights at the Gjirokastra machine-shop and that of manufacturing needles for hand sewing at the Kavaja nail and bolt shop, etc.

During 1967, the workers in industry and handicrafts did

better work to meet the needs of socialist trade and agriculture. Consequently, they over-fulfilled the tasks of turning out work tools, ploughs and agricultural equipment as well as goods for broad consumption. Better work was done in improving the quality of products. Plain ready-to-wear clothes were turned out about 30% cheaper, industry furnished the market with woolens of another texture about 30% stronger than the similar ones manufactured before. New patterns have been introduced in the manufacture of knitwear, footwear, etc. Our woodworking shops made important progress in turning out lighter, cheaper and more plain pieces of furniture.

Good results have been attained also in lowering costs of production. The workers' collectives of the enterprises of the Ministry of Industry and Mining lowered the cost of production 1.7% as planned (for the 9-month period).

II. — AGRICULTURE

Agricultural workers have made good progress during 1967. Right at the start of the first three-month period of this year and responding to the call of the 5th Party Congress, our patriotic peasantry joined of their own free will in agricultural cooperatives in the mountainous regions not yet collectivized and completing thus collectivization of agriculture. During 1967, a number of revolutionary initiatives were taken and developed in agriculture as those of reducing the size of personal plots of land and number of livestock, of the gifts of thousands of heads of livestock which agricultural cooperatives and state farms donated free of charge to help strengthen the agricultural cooperatives in mountainous regions placing, in this way, general above individual interests, of the amassment of bull calves from members of cooperatives in line with the initiative of the Gorishti cooperative in the Vlora district, etc.

Good work was done during 1967 by farmers in reclaiming virgin lands the plan target of which was over-reached by 21%.

In comparison with the year before the area of land put under cultivation the whole year was increased 6%. The area planted in autumn 1967 was about 15% larger than that planted in autumn 1966, of which that planted to wheat was nearly 20% higher.

The revolutionary impulse at work, greater attention paid to putting into practice agricultural technique, consolidation of the material basis, and scientific experimentation enabled the attainment of good results in raising the yield of food grains and of other agricultural and dairy products. The planned targets of food grain production was over-reached. A number of mountainous districts and agricultural cooperatives which had never raised food grains enough to cover their needs did so and even turned their surpluses over to the State. In comparison with the planned targets and those of 1966, State amassments were realized at the following rates: food grains - 116%, and 128%, respectively, unhulled rice - 92% and 119%, sugar beet - 124%, and 105%, sunflower - 92%, and 141%, olives (a calendaric year) - 182%, and 295%, meat (live weight) - 100% and 112%, milk - 105%, and 113%, eggs - 140%, and 172%, and hides and skins - 112% and 136%.

More manure was amassed and used during 1967 and, as a result of the production of artificial fertilizers in the country, agriculture was supplied with 5 times as much of the latter as in 1966.

With a view to coming more and more to the aid of the peasantry, the Tractor and Machine Stations over-fulfilled the volume of work in stubble units and raised it about 22% above 1966.

Irrigation capacity was accomplished 102% of plan with an increase of 5% above 1966.

III. — BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

The planned targets of the volume of construction in certain principal works were reached as follows: in the oil refinery at Fieri - 109%, in the Fieri Electric Powerplant - 100%, at the Vau Denja Hydro-electric Power-plant - 105%, in the Elbasan Cement Factory - 142%, in the Kavaja Glass Factory - 108%, in draining the Hoxhara marshes - 109%, in improving the water system of the Shkodra plain - 106%, in improving the water system of the Gjirokastra and Dropulli plains - 111%, in the Rogozhina-Fieri Railroad - 104% and in residential buildings - 103%.

The volume of building construction by the enterprises of the Ministry of Building Construction was realized 101% of plan and increased 9% above 1966.

During 1967 work was completed in building these principal schemes: the Nitrate Fertilizer Plan in Fieri, the Superphosphate Fertilizer Plant at Laç, the Copper Refinery at Rubik, the Soda Plant at Vlora, the Cement Factory at Fush-Kruja, the Winery in Tirana, a Park for Vehicles in Fieri, High-tension Cables linking Elbasan-Prenjës-Pogradec, systematization and asphalting the Elbasan-Llixha-Gostimë-Papër highway, the bridges spanning Vjosa and the Luftinja as well as a number of agricultural schemes like the draining of the Lezha-Mati swamps, of the Divjaka-Karavasta swamps, the irrigation canal of Tapiza in the Kruja district, the Arbana canal in the Tirana district, the Çestja canal in the Elbasan district, the Metallaj Reservoir in the Durres district, etc.

The enterprises of the Ministry of Building Construction lowered costs by 3.5% as planned (for the 9 month period).

IV. — TRANSPORT

The plan of transport of goods in ton/kilometres was fulfilled by the Ministry of Communications as follows: transport by motor vehicles - 101%, transport by rail - 104%, sea transport (internal) - 116%, and international sea transport - 129%. As compared with 1966 the volume of work in ton/kilometers increased: in vehicle transport - 12%, and in transport by rail - 17%.

The planned targets of travel per passenger-kilometres were realized as follows: travel by motor vehicles 103% and by rail - 107%. As compared with 1966 travel by motor vehicles increased - 27% and by rail - 18%.

The planned coefficient of use of trucks was fulfilled 102%.

V. — TRADE, SERVICES AND FINANCE

The plan of retailed goods in socialist trade was fulfilled 103% with an increase of 7% above that of 1966. The network of retail trade units, particularly, that of consumers' organizations has been considerably increased and expanded, especially, in remote mountainous regions. In comparison with 1966, the network of trade units in the countryside has been increased by over 500 stores. In comparison with last year

the population have bought more of meat and fish, milcheeses, eggs, vegetables, fabrics, hosiery, footwear, knit goods, nails, cement, timber, bricks, tiles, pieces of furniture, wireless receiving sets etc.

In 1967 prices were lowered on goods for broad consumption yielding a profit of 50,000,000 leks for the consumers.

Planned targets of exports were fulfilled 105%. In comparison with last year the volume of goods exported increased as follows: bitumen - 36%, iron ore - 5%, chromium ore - 4%, blister copper and cathodes - 12%, tobacco (leaves) - 3%, vegetables and melons - 34%.

The planned targets of various repairs were accomplished 108%, those of various services - 100%, of construction repairs - 104%, and so on.

The planned targets of the State Budget in incomes were reached 101% and in expenditures - about 100%. In line with the 1967 April 29 joined Statement of the Party Central Committee and Council of Ministers, the budget covered all the facilitating economic and financial measures in favor of agricultural cooperatives to develop productive forces, to raise the standard of living of the rural and urban workers to a total financial sum of 90,000,000 leks. It also covered the expenses incurred in repairing the damages caused by the November earthquake in the Dibra and Librazhdi districts.

The planned targets for long term credits to agricultural cooperatives were reached 102% with an increase of 6% above 1966. Those which profited most from long term credits were the newly set up agricultural cooperative and the old mountainous cooperatives with less incomes. Short term credits to agricultural cooperatives increased 17%.

VI. — EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

During the 1967-68 school-year the number of enrolled school children and students was 103% of plan or 17% above that of the previous year. During 1967 the number of graduates from secondary technical and vocational schools was 4,430 or 12% more than the previous year, from higher institutes of learning was 1,220 or 8% more and from the Upper 2-Year Teachers' Training Institutes 730 or 23% more.

Public health service made further improvements during 1967. In comparison with 1966, the number of beds in health

institutions increased about 6% and the number of physicians and dentists 15%. A number of new public health institutions were set up like the hospitals at Burrel and at Lezha, the Polyclinic at Saranda, etc.

* * *

The results attained in accomplishing the tasks of the State Plan of 1967 are a sound basis on which to embark on accomplishing with success the tasks of the plan of 1968, the third year of the 4th five-year period. They are a further clear indication of the self-denying efforts of the workers of our country, of the steel-like unity of our people with our Party, of the wise leadership and correct Marxist-Leninist line of the Party of Labor of Albania and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha.

THE OFFICE OF STATISTICS AT THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION

Tirana, January 24, 1968.

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